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"FORGET-ME-NOT!" BY W. C. T. DOBSON, A.R.A.

THE PLEBISCITUM OF MAY 8, 1870.

France has some reason to be glad that the plebiscitary period is over. It came to an end on Tuesday last, when the eight days allowed by law for free preliminary political discussion on the subject of the plebiscitum had run into the domain of the past. During that brief, noisy interval much was said that had better have been left unsaid, and extreme views and resolutions were pelted at the French public with a zeal, untempered by discretion, which is the usual characteristic of a short occasional spell of political license. We are not able to say much about the use made of this plebiscitary period in the provinces of France; but in Paris it was not very conducive to the interests of true freedom. A vast quantity of wild opinion and tempestuous rhetoric, more or less deeply tinged with Republicanism, agitated the political atmosphere, and served the immediate purpose of scaring the timid into the retreat offered to them by Caesarism. The talk in public assemblies was of a frothy kind, and, unfortunately, instead of indicating the settled direction of the public will, and so of impressing upon the affairs of State a bias in accordance with national sentiment, did little else than create a plausible excuse for the resuscitation of personal government by the Emperor. At any rate, things have not moved on in France with that steady regularity which is one of the distinguishing effects of a constitutional régime. The force of authority has expressed itself unevenly and in jerks. There is and has been for months past an alternation of something like anarchical passion with the self-assertion of despotism; and the turbulence of extreme democracy seems to have suggested or commended to the well-to-do classes in France the necessity of accepting a "saviour of society."

It is not surprising that the mists which have been driving across France during the last fortnight should have been rent asunder here and there by the electric flashes of revolutionary conspiracy. In that country it seldom happens—owing, perhaps, to the extreme excitability of the political atmosphere—that thick clouds obscure the firmament without being accompanied by explosions more or less dangerous to existing rule. Plots are sure to come to light in such seasons of commotion. They occur in obedience to a law almost as calculable as that according to which November meteors display themselves to men's eyes. In some other respects, also, such plots resemble the physical phenomenon to which we have alluded. They are probably the result not of any new force or any specifically organised material, brought into being for the occasion; but they simply indicate the entrance of latent forces, always more or less in existence, within an orbit of intense political fervour; and they show by their incandescence an interval of conjunction between unregulated political desires and unfrequent political opportunities. Of course there are those signs in the heavens precedent to the plebiscitum to be recorded to-morrow. There is a plot for the assassination of the Emperor; there is a secret device for blowing up, say, the Tuileries by bombs and grenades; there is a conspiracy of International Unionists for subverting the bases of society; and there flits across the darkened stage the lurid figure of an English lunatic, who seems practically intent on restoring social habits to the simplicity of Nature. Altogether, the stage effects of these combinations promise to be of the most serviceable kind to the success of the plebiscitum. Nor is implicit reliance placed by the friends of the Emperor upon these elements of violence. In striking contrast with them and with the disorders to which they point, episcopal pastorals from Rome summon the believing and the devout to a religious support of the Imperial throne, and suggest that the way to peace on earth, to the prosperity of the Church, and to happiness in the future will be most securely entered upon by those who pass through the wicket-gate of an affirmative vote to the proposition submitted to the people by the Emperor Napoleon.

It is sad that the political apathy of so large a portion of French society should need to be dispelled by *coups de théâtres*, or by abnormal incidents; nevertheless, we fear it is so. It may be that, in the present instance, indifference had grown out of a long series of political uncertainties, or it may be that the form in which appeal has been made to the judgment of France has killed all interest in the necessarily misleading answer which must be given to it. But, assuredly, the approaching plebiscitum has done little or nothing towards evoking any increase of healthy political life in the nation. Indeed, there seemed to be no small danger of such a falling short of votes in affirmation of the Emperor's proposal as to deprive the ceremonial of all moral weight and influence. The breeze which has stirred the Dead Sea has come from a not altogether expected quarter. Melodrama, which might have possibly advanced to tragedy, has shaken the nerves of thousands whose public sympathies the somewhat erratic course of Imperial policy had utterly failed to gain. The vote to-morrow may, perhaps, be as decisively affirmative as the most ardent friends of the Empire could reasonably wish. But it cannot be concealed that, whether by design or by accident, by the natural concurrence of regular and legitimate social forces, or by the ingenious plans of plotting and counter-plotting politicians, the plebiscitum which is to invest recent Constitutional reforms with a popular sanction, and so hand back to the Emperor the insignia of personal rule which he had formally surrendered into the hands of the French people, will have been, we will not say obtained, but largely magnified, by occurrences which, whatever

may have been their immediate causes, will have prevented the popular vote from being a true expression of the popular will.

We regret this exceedingly. We are afraid that there are some personages who have become associated with the Empire whose interest in the preservation of personal government in France is far keener than that of Napoleon himself, and whose subtle ingenuity in recovering for him what he seemed to confer upon the people with such spontaneous liberality is equal to the necessities of every case. Responsible Government, a Parliamentary system, and several kindred forms of institutional freedom will, it is true, be assured to France by the success of to-morrow's plebiscitum. It seems likely enough that affairs will proceed much more smoothly, if not faster, towards the development of a free political life after than before the vote of the nation has been taken. But, at best, it will be a political life dependent upon sufferance. It may be healthy enough in itself, but the sword of Damocles, in the shape of a plebiscitary appeal, will ever be suspended over it. However, we will not incontinently lament that which, in the long run, may have its practical uses. Every great people must pass through a national discipline appropriate to its own character and its special conditions; and the kind of discipline which best suits one nation may be wholly incompatible with the constitutional tendencies of another. We are not optimists; but, in the main, we believe it to be true that national institutions must, after all, be the substantial but varying expression of national idiosyncracies. France is endeavouring to work out her political destinies with no little intelligence and with hearty goodwill, but she is doomed to work under galling artificial restraints. We will not say that her temperament is such as to require this probation, but we are quite satisfied that the restrictive conditions against which she has to effect her progress may, if wisely and honestly accepted as part of the problem of her political life, turn to profitable account in the future character of both her institutions and her people.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday, May 5.

The report of a plot against the life of the Emperor, which was circulated on the Bourse on Friday afternoon, but which was totally discredited in the evening papers of the same day, turns out to have been perfectly true. It appears that, some days since, the French police were warned from London that a man named Beaury, a deserter from the French army, had left for Paris. As it was known that he was in almost constant communication with Gustave Flourens, the man who arrested the Commissaire of Police and proclaimed the Republic, at Belleville, after the apprehension of Henri Rochefort, it was thought that he was implicated in a plot against the Emperor's life of which the French police already possessed certain traces. Immediately the Prefect of Police learnt that Beaury had left London for Paris the whole of the hotels and *maisons meublées* were searched in the hope of finding some trace of him, but without success. However, by the most miraculous chance imaginable, M. Lagrange, one of the chiefs of the private police, happened to meet him, on Friday, at the corner of the Rue du Helder, just as he was getting into a cab. M. Lagrange, of course, followed him, and on the way picked up a couple of constables in private clothes. After driving about for two hours and stopping at various places, followed by M. Lagrange and his companions, Beaury ordered the cabman to drive him to the Rue des Moulins, near the Rue Richelieu; and it was just as he was paying the coachman that M. Lagrange stepped up and arrested him. On being searched, a revolver and several compromising documents were found upon him, among which was a letter from Gustave Flourens. At his lodgings at the Hôtel de Bayonne, in the Rue des Orties St. Honoré, a number of compromising papers were found. Beaury is a youth about twenty-three years of age, without beard or moustache. On being arrested he confessed his intention of shooting the Emperor at the first favourable opportunity. Unfortunately, the plot does not end here. On the afternoon of the following day the police attempted to seize a party of men whom they had been watching for some time past, and whom they had been following since the morning; but, owing to the assistance rendered by the people in the neighbourhood, all but one managed to escape. A party of police, led by M. Lagrange, immediately searched their lodgings, and at the house where one of them—named, Roussel—lived, discovered a box containing twenty-one bombs, together with the nails, glass tubes, wire handles, and the receipt for making the picate of potassium, which was found in a plaster bust of Garibaldi. A revolver of English manufacture, exactly similar to the one found on Beaury, was discovered in one of the drawers. I have been to the Prefecture of Police, and have seen the bombs, which were still in M. Lagrange's room. Each one is divided into two equal portions, which, united by a screw passing through the centre, form a body somewhat resembling a thick cake. The exterior diameter is 5½ in., and the thickness of the metal is about ¾ in. The upper and lower cavities are ribbed inside and pierced with eighteen holes to which can be adapted nipples, and caps, or nails, with the heads inside. In those seized the latter plan has been adopted. Some of the holes are left unoccupied, to allow air to penetrate to the interior, which greatly increases the force of the explosion. It is supposed that it was intended to take the bombs to a house where the Emperor's carriage was likely to pass and throw them down upon it, as it is considered that, on account of the nails, it would be too dangerous to carry them. The slightest thing in a crowd would be sufficient to cause the nails to break the glass tube in the interior, containing the picate of potassium, which would immediately cause a most fearful explosion. Roussel's lodgings, where the bombs were found, are in a wretched-looking one-story house at the bottom of an alley called *Impasse des Rosiers*, and consist of two small rooms furnished in a most humble manner. He has a wife twenty-four years

of age and two children, a little boy aged six years and a little girl aged four years. His wife says that she knew nothing of the bombs, but the police think that she can tell them a great deal about the plot if she likes. She was arrested on Monday night, just an hour after I left the house. The man who cast the bombs has come forward. It appears that on reading the *Figaro*, which gave a drawing of the bombs, he was struck by their resemblance to certain shells which he had cast a few days previously for an individual who had refused to give his address. He immediately informed the police, and it now appears that about the middle of April a man who gave the name of Renard, but who answers to the description of Roussel, called upon him and ordered 120 shells similar to drawings which he gave. He explained that these shells were for a new kind of velocipede which he had invented. In consequence of the strike among the founders only twenty-two were delivered, of which twenty-one were seized at Roussel's house; and it is thought that the twenty-second was tried in a wood near St. Denis. Up to the present the police have been unable to capture Roussel; but numerous arrests have been made, among which is that of a French barrister, said to be seriously implicated in the conspiracy.

The expulsion of M. Cernuschi from French territory, in accordance with an order of the Minister of the Interior, has caused several violent articles against the Government from the Radical papers, and is condemned in the strongest terms by many of the Liberal journals. M. Cernuschi had purchased a large portion of the shares of the *Sicile*, and had given a sum of 100,000f. to the anti-plebiscitary fund. In order to avenge himself on the Government, he has given a further sum of 100,000f. in aid of the above fund.

On Friday the Empress, as patroness of the Prince Imperial Lending Society, received M. Frémy, governor of the Crédit Foncier, and his secretary, who presented the accounts of the charity, which proves to be in a most flourishing condition. On Saturday afternoon the Emperor and Empress visited the Exhibition of Fine Arts at the Palais de l'Industrie, which was opened to the public on Sunday. On Saturday evening a dinner, followed by a concert, was given at the Tuileries. On Sunday, before mass, the Emperor, Empress, and Prince Imperial signed the marriage contract of M. Maurice Richard, the Minister of Fine Arts. After mass their Majesties stood sponsors to the daughter of Marshal and Madame de Bazaine.

On Sunday the diplomatic body were received by the Emperor. The Pope's Nuncio, Mgr. Chigi, presented his Majesty with an address congratulating him on his having been preserved from the plot against his life. The Marshals and general officers of the troops, accompanied by their staff in full uniform, were also received by the Emperor to congratulate him on his escape. The Empress has visited the patients attacked with smallpox at the work-room for young girls established under her patronage in the Maison Piepas.

On Monday Prince Napoleon, who has returned to Paris, dined with M. Emile Ollivier, in company with the Duke de Grammont, French Ambassador at Vienna. In the course of the evening the Duke de Grammont and the Minister of Justice had an audience of the Emperor.

Prince Anatole San Donato de Demidoff died here, last Friday, at the age of sixty, from inflammation of the lungs, brought on by a cold. Prince Demidoff married, in 1841, Princess Mathilde, daughter of Prince Jerome Bonaparte and cousin to the present Emperor. The union was not, however, happy, and a separation was pronounced a few years afterwards. As the Prince died intestate, his nephew succeeds to his property.

General Martimprey has been appointed to succeed the late General the Marquis de Lawcetine as Governor of the Invalides.

A mass for the repose of the soul of the late Duchesse de Berry was celebrated on Friday morning in most of the Paris churches.

The lectures at the School of Medicine were resumed on Monday. M. Tardieu was received outside the building with cries of "Resign!" "Resign!" but no interruption occurred during the lecture.

The Marquis de Caux, the husband of Adelina Patti, has sent 1500f. to the Central Plebiscitary Committee.

Queen Christina has arrived in Paris from Hyères.

ITALY.

The King has entirely recovered from his late attack of fever, and on Saturday was able to return to Florence.

The Chamber of Deputies has approved the estimates for the Ministry of Justice. It is stated that the Minister for War accepts in substance the proposals of the War Committee for the reduction by 14,000,000 lire of the War Budget, without touching the organisation of the army. The Committee of the Chambers to which the financial propositions of the Government were referred refuse to concur in some of them. At one sitting there was some conversation on brigandage in Italy, and exception was taken to certain statements recently made by Mr. Moens, the English tourist, who was captured near Salerno, in 1864, and who, after upwards of three months' detention, obtained his release on payment of a heavy ransom.

A despatch received from Ravenna announces that Cataneo, the murderer of General Escoffier, has been sentenced to twenty years' penal servitude.

PORTUGAL.

The monument to King Pedro IV., at Lisbon, was inaugurated yesterday week. An immense crowd assembled, but no disturbance occurred.

The British squadron sailed last Saturday for Vigo and Corunna, en route for England.

Some serious riots have occurred at Castro Dairo, and some persons are said to have been killed. The telegram does not mention the origin of the disturbances.

BELGIUM.

In the Chamber of Representatives, M. Jamar, Minister of Public Works, has brought in a bill to sanction the resumption by the Government of the management of the 1500 kilometres of railway which had been leased to the Société Générale d'Exploitation.

The Chamber has passed a bill abolishing the duties on salt and fish, lowering the rate of postage, and increasing the excise duty on alcohol.

GERMANY.

In Wednesday's sitting of the Customs Parliament of North Germany the proposal of Herr Hovenbeck to fix the duty upon rice at 15 silbergroschens was adopted. The proposal of the Government to raise the duty upon coffee to 5-6 thalers was rejected by 187 votes against 63. The remaining clauses of the Tariff Bill were then agreed to.

The House has rejected the Government bill which proposed to tax the manufacture of beetroot sugar.

SWEDEN.

The King has given his sanction to the changes effected by the two votes of the Diets of 1868 and 1870 in the provisions of the Constitution which excluded the religious dissidents from a large part of public functions, and especially from the Chambers.

AMERICA.

The Senate and House of Representatives at Washington passed a resolution, on Monday, to adjourn till July 4. The House of Representatives has granted Mrs. Lincoln a pension of 3000 dols. a year. The Senate has unanimously confirmed General Badeau as Consul-General in London.

It is reported that the Mormons are arming for the purpose of resisting the enforcement of the national laws against polygamy.

The monthly statement of the Secretary of the Treasury shows that on May the total debt of the United States, less cash and bonds in the Treasury, was 2,420,861,334 dols., being a decrease during the month of April of 11,697,793 dols. The money in the Treasury in gold amounts to 115,525,000 dols.; in currency, to 6,954,000 dols. Mr. Boutwell, Secretary of Finance, has ordered the treasurer at New York to sell 4,000,000 dols. of gold and to purchase 6,000,000 dols. of bonds during the month.

The disaster at Richmond caused the death of fifty-nine persons, and 125 were injured.

CANADA.

A bill for the government of Prince Rupert's Land has been introduced, which proves that the Legislature of the province shall consist of two Chambers, the first to be nominated and the second to be elected by household suffrage, on the basis of one year's residence. The bill further provides that Prince Rupert's Land shall be represented in the Dominion Parliament by two senators and four representatives. An annual subsidy is to be paid by Canada, amounting to 80c. per head of the population, with an additional sum of 30,000 dols. Twelve hundred thousand acres will be reserved for the extinction of Indian titles. The province is to have power to amend municipal constitutions, except as to execution. The province is to comprise the territory from 96 deg. to 98 deg. 15 min. west longitude, and from 49 deg. to 50 deg. and 30 min. north latitude. The name of the province is to be Manetoda. All other portions of the north-west territory are to be governed by Canada.

The militia who were called out to guard against the expected Fenian raid have generally been recalled from the frontier.

A deputation from British Columbia to arrange terms for joining the Canada Confederation is on its way to Toronto.

INDIA.

A crowded meeting was held in Bombay, on Tuesday, at which a memorial was adopted requesting the Secretary of State for India to disallow the income tax, on the ground of its being unconstitutional, unnecessary, and oppressive. Great indignation, the telegram says, was expressed at the meeting.

The Ameer of Afghanistan has established a postal service between Cabul and Peshawur.

The *Delhi Gazette* states that the Black Mountain tribes have renewed their raids at Agrore.

The Queen has approved of M. Lacathon de la Forest as Consul-General at Calcutta for the Emperor of the French.

A telegram from Bombay states that the Duke of Edinburgh is visiting Trincomalee, and thence will proceed to Galle.

The next mails for Australia will be dispatched from London, via Southampton, on the morning of Saturday, May 14; via Marseilles, on the evening of Friday, May 20.

A new palace just finished for the Khédive, at Ramleh, near Alexandria, at a cost of at least £200,000, has been completely destroyed by fire.

The command of the Peshawur division of the Indian army has been conferred upon General M'Murdo, the late Inspector-General of Volunteers.

The corner-stone of a new college for Melbourne, which is to be affiliated with the Melbourne University, under the title of Trinity College, was laid, on Feb. 10, by the Bishop of Melbourne.

The New Royal Grammar School, Newcastle-on-Tyne, was opened last week. The building has been four years in course of erection, and has accommodation for 450 pupils.

A fatal colliery explosion took place, last Saturday night, at Cochrill pit, near Merthyr, the property of the Dowlais Iron Company. One man was killed, and another so seriously injured that his life is despaired of. Fifteen horses were also killed, and the pit was much damaged.

The trade and navigation returns issued yesterday week show a gratifying increase in the export business of the country. For the first quarter of the present year the value was £45,678,774; the returns for the corresponding period of 1869 being £42,803,605, and of 1868 £41,422,916.

A review, a field-day, and an inspection of troops took place on Woolwich-common on Saturday last. The whole of the available troops in garrison were drawn up in review order, in command of Major-General Sir David Wood, K.C.B. After being inspected by the Commandant, the troops went through a series of manoeuvres and firing, in the presence of a large number of spectators.

The new South-Western branch line into Aldershot Camp was opened on Monday morning.—Three new stations on the City and suburban line of the Midland Railway were opened for public traffic on the same day: the first from London is at Child's-hill and Cricklewood, to which fifteen trains will run to and from all stations on the Metropolitan Railway; the next at the Welsh Harp, Hendon, to accommodate the pleasure parties visiting that spot; and the next at Flitwick, two stations on the London side of Bedford.

Cardinal Cullen left Dublin on Sunday morning for Rome. A pastoral from him was read in all the Roman Catholic churches in Dublin on Sunday. In it he denounces Fenianism and Freemasonry, urges opposition to Mr. Newdegate's motion, and, referring to the Land Bill, says:—"The statesmen who have displayed so much zeal for the public good and welfare of Ireland by undertaking a work of such magnitude may be defeated by their opponents; but they deserve our warmest thanks, and the lasting gratitude of the country. In my opinion it would be fatal policy to do anything to weaken their hands or assist in driving them from power."

The freedom of Stirling has been conferred upon Sir William Stirling Maxwell, Bart., "in consideration of his career as an art-critic, a politician, and a gentleman."—Recently the Conservatives of Perthshire entertained Sir William Stirling Maxwell at a banquet in the City Hall, Perth, at the same time presenting him with a magnificent testimonial in recognition of his services as representative of the county in four successive Parliaments. The demonstration was the result of a movement set on foot among the tenant-farmers in December, 1868. A subscription of £1600 was expended in the purchase of a splendid collection of silver plate. Lord Mansfield presided, and made the presentation.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

The weather on the opening day of the Newmarket Spring Meeting was as cold and unpleasant as that during the Craven week had been bright and warm; but there was a vast improvement in the sport. Of course, the first appearance of the two-year-olds was the most interesting feature of the day's racing, and twenty-nine of them put in an appearance in four races. Blair Athol made a capital beginning to the season by winning the chief race of the day with Tullibardine, a half-brother to Coutts. He is a nice colt, though hardly up to Derby form, and won pretty easily. Dr. Giles, the first Cam-buscan we have yet seen, ran well; but Norfolk, an own brother to Suffolk, was very backward; and Chevisaunce, an own sister to Lord Lyon and Achievement, is hardly worthy of her distinguished relatives, and will probably turn out to be a filly of the Hatchment stamp. The desperate race between Idus and Musket, the respective trial-horses of King of Scots and Stanley, gave the latter pair a lift in the Two Thousand quotations. The victory of Tullibardine must have been very satisfactory to Mr. Blenkiron, who bred him; but that of Jack-in-the-Box, another Middle Park colt, would be even more so, as he is by his prime favourite, King John, whom he always asserts will make a very great name as a sire. Bayminster, a chestnut son of Newminster and Black Rose, showed fine speed in another two-year-old race, and at one time held a very long lead; but Jack-in-the-Box fairly wore him down at last.

The authorities evidently considered that the "Guineas" furnished quite enough excitement for one day, so that there was not another race worth looking at, and, after Rosicrucian, who was certainly the handsomest horse we saw during the day, had played with the couple of platers who opposed him over his favourite six furlongs, we were very glad to adjourn to the finish of the Rowley Mile. On the previous day Pandore, who is a neat and compact, but decidedly small, filly, had beaten Gertrude pretty easily; but now, over precisely the same course and at the same weights, the tables were completely turned. So much for following public form! By this time people were beginning to congregate round the birdcage, in which we noticed Admiral Rous, Baron Rothschild, Mr. Chaplin, John Day, and several other turf notabilities. We were all rather disappointed, as only three of the Two Thousand horses were saddled here, so we saw none of the others until after the race. Normanby was the first stripped: he has grown into quite as fine a colt as he promised to do when we saw him at Doncaster last year, and there was nothing in his appearance to prevent him winning; but he attracted little attention, as he was said to be immeasurably inferior to his stable companion, King of Scots. The latter impressed us more favourably than he did at Northampton: he looked much fitter than then, but he was still bandaged "all round." However, when Custance mounted, in a bright new jacket, and looking the picture of confidence, the horse was followed to the starting-post by a crowd of admirers. Fordham, who, for some reason or other, did not wear Mr. Graham's usual "black belt," seemed rather unhappy on Astolfo. "The last of the Orlandos" is a neat and nice-looking colt; he has, however, stood still since last year, and shows no improvement. The start was delayed a long time by the fractiousness of Sunlight, whom we could see through glasses, and who totally declined to join his horses, and amused himself by rearing violently, wheeling round and round, and dancing about in the most extraordinary manner. When, by the united efforts of a man and three or four boys, he was reduced to something like order, and the flag fell, he lost several lengths, and took no prominent part in the contest. We have never seen a great race won more easily; indeed, Daley had simply to sit still on Macgregor, and, hands down, let the horse come in as he pleased. As he rode his first Two Thousand winner back into the birdcage he was cheered again and again by the public, with whom "the boy in yellow" has always been deservedly popular. Of course, now that Macgregor has won, those who were loudest in denouncing his shape and make, have discovered innumerable beauties in him; but to our mind there can be no doubt that he is one of the meanest and worst-looking horses that ran in the race. He has a pretty head, and good shoulders, back, and loins; but he is decidedly short, has small feet, and bad, "stilty" forelegs. He does not show to advantage in his slow paces, though when fully extended he covers an enormous amount of ground in his stride. However, "handsome is as handsome does," and the Derby was virtually decided on Tuesday last. It is somewhat remarkable that every horse that ran in the Two Thousand is engaged in the Derby and Leger.

On Wednesday the Newmarket Two-Year-Old Plate was the only interesting event, and twenty youngsters turned out for it. Macaroni's star was again in the ascendant, as a weedy little filly by him from Aloyone won pretty easily from a slashing daughter of Scottish Chief and Rambling Katie, belonging to Mr. Merry. The winner, a stable companion of Bayminster, who was much fancied but only finished seventh, was not backed for a shilling, and it seems wonderful that trainers so often make such great mistakes as to the relative merits of animals under their care. Orthodox, the favourite, was only fourth; and while Count Lagrange is sweeping the board in France he cannot win a race of any description over here; still she may do better in future, and Dancing Girl, a promising Gladiateur, is sure to improve on the form she showed in this race.

The field for the One Thousand was of precisely the same strength as that which turned out for the Two Thousand, and, taken as a whole, they were a beautiful lot of fillies. Hester has grown into one of the most magnificent animals ever seen, and the only drawback to her appearance is her slightly-drooping quarters. Frivolity has not grown or improved much since last year, and sweated a good deal after the race; while her stable companion had not turned a hair. Mahonia has furnished into a fine raking mare; but nothing that ran would bear comparison with Hester. About 300 yards from the finish the three we have mentioned drew away from their field, and ran a pretty good race home; but, though the Baron's colours looked formidable for a moment, Grimshaw never had really to ride Hester, who held the other two quite safe; and Macgregor and Hester form a good Epsom double event. Running first and second for this race will console Joseph Dawson for his disappointment with King of Scots on Tuesday. Blue Gown did not oppose Rosicrucian over the Rowley mile; but even then Sir Joseph could not win the race, as his representative was very easily beaten by Idus, a pretty and bloodlike son of Wild Dayrell.

Once more Harry Kelley, on whom increasing years seem to have no effect, has sculled himself to victory, and his last race is all the more creditable to him as he had never previously performed in an "open boat," while Bright is quite a veteran at the business in which he had proved singularly successful. It was extremely unfortunate that a foul should have occurred; still there can be little doubt that Kelley had the race in hand

at the time, and the referee's decision was received with general satisfaction as the ex-champion is a great favourite in the north. He received substantial proof of this on the following evening, when he was presented with a gold medal and a purse of sovereigns by his Newcastle friends.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

The new line of tramway laid down from Brixton to Kennington was opened on Monday for public traffic. The tramway to Clapham is in course of construction, and will be united with the Brixton line at Kennington, and then continued to Westminster.

The new hall of the Inner Temple is to be opened by Princess Louisa, accompanied by Prince Christian, on Saturday next, May 14, when a déjeuner will be given in the new building. There is also to be a banquet in the hall on the following Wednesday, May 18.

The anniversary dinner of the members and friends of the Institute of Civil Engineers took place, on Wednesday evening, at Willis's Rooms—the president of the institution, Mr. Charles B. Vignoles, F.R.S., in the chair. There were about 300 guests present.

At a general meeting of the Royal Institute of British Architects, on Monday last, the Royal gold medal annually awarded with her Majesty's gracious sanction to some eminent architect or architectural savant, was presented by the president (Sir William Tite, M.P.) to Mr. B. Ferrey, F.S.A.

The opening cruise of the Prince of Wales Yacht Club took place last Saturday, and was succeeded by an excellent white-bait dinner at the new Falcon Hotel, Gravesend, at which between fifty and sixty gentlemen sat down, headed by the commodore, Mr. Cecil Long.

Early yesterday week an accident of a fatal character took place upon the works of the Metropolitan District Railway, near Blackfriars Bridge. A cart conveying a load of sand was passing over one of the archways, when the brickwork gave way. One man was killed and several others were seriously injured—two of whom have since died.

The Prince of Wales has signified his intention to preside at a special festival, to be held at Willis's Rooms, St. James's, on the 25th inst., in aid of the building fund of the Hospital for Sick Children, in Great Ormond-street, the rebuilding being rendered necessary by the great age of the houses in which the hospital is at present located.

The following resolution has been adopted, by 23 votes to 6, at the meeting of the Metropolitan Board of Works:—"That, in the opinion of the board, it is desirable that there should be one central municipal government with jurisdiction over the whole metropolis, and that there should be a readjustment of the districts into which the metropolis is at present divided for the purposes of local government."

The opening dinner of the Royal Academy took place on Saturday night, under the presidency of Sir Francis Grant. The Prince of Wales, the Duke of Cambridge, the Archbishop of York, Mr. Gladstone, Lord Elcho, Mr. Childers, Mr. Motley, and Mr. Charles Dickens were among the speakers. The president announced that another exhibition of old masters will be held in the Academy next winter.

About six thousand persons attended a conversazione given, on Wednesday evening, by the Society of Arts, at the South Kensington Museum. Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales had accepted invitations, and they were received at the garden entrance by Lord Henry G. Lennox, chairman of the council; Mr. Henry Cole, C.B.; and other officials of the society and of the Science and Art Department.

The sum of £6000 has been contributed by the Middlesex Quarter Sessions towards the establishment of a reformatory school for girls, by the purchase of Fortescue House, Twickenham, together with about an acre of land, and to provide for the fitting and furnishing of the house for the accommodation of a hundred girls, the wages of the necessary staff, and the expenses of maintenance until the institution can be got into working order.

On Monday evening the annual oration of the Medical Society of London was delivered, at the Hanover-square Rooms, by Mr. Francis Mason, F.R.C.S., of the Westminster Hospital. The subject of his discourse was an epitome of the transactions of the society since its institution, in 1773. The dissertation revealed many remarkable and curious incidents. The proceedings of the evening terminating in an agreeable conversazione.

In the report of the Nightingale Fund for the year ending Dec. 25, 1869, it is stated that the receipts for the year were £2572, and the expenditure £1232. A woman who had been admitted as a probationer, under the conditions of the institution, in 1868, was appointed superintendent of nurses at the Royal Victoria Hospital, and proceeded to that establishment, accompanied by a staff of six nurses. Another probationer received from the guardians of St. Pancras the appointment of matron to the new workhouse infirmary at Highgate.

It was stated at the annual meeting of the Zoological Society of London, yesterday week, that the Government had consented to allow the society to re-enter into occupation of the slip of ground at the north side of the Regent's Park Canal. This will be connected with the Zoological Gardens by a bridge, and a new entrance-gate will be opened in Primrose Hill-road. It was incidentally stated that the cost of maintaining the splendid collection in the gardens amounted to £20,000 a year.

A meeting, largely attended, was held in the Pimlico Rooms, Warwick-street, yesterday week, to take into consideration the offer of the Marquis of Westminster of a piece of ground in Ebury-street on which to erect a working men's club and institute, together with £1000 in aid of the expenses. The chair was taken by Mr. W. H. Smith, M.P., who briefly stated the object of the meeting; after which, resolutions were passed heartily acknowledging the kindness of the Marquis, and pledging the meeting to their best efforts in aid of the establishment and maintenance of the club.

At the annual meeting of the Royal Institution of Great Britain, held on Monday—Sir Henry Holland, Bart., M.D., D.C.L., F.R.S., President, in the chair—the annual report of the committee of visitors for the year 1869, testifying to the great and increasing prosperity of the institution, was read and adopted. Thanks were voted to the president, treasurer, and secretary, to the committees of managers and visitors, and to the professors, for their services to the institution during the past year. The following gentlemen were unanimously elected as officers for the ensuing year:—President, Sir Henry Holland, Bart.; treasurer, Mr. William Spottiswoode, M.A., F.R.S.; secretary, Dr. H. Benze Jones; managers—the Earl of Derby, the Marquis of Salisbury, Sir John Lubbock, Bart., M.P., Sir R. I. Murchison, Sir Edward Sabine, Sir Charles Wheatstone, Dr. J. J. Begg, and Messrs. W. Bowman, C. Brooke, G. Busk, Warren De la Rue, J. P. Gassiot, J. H. Gladstone, G. Macilwain, and W. Pole.

DEPARTURE OF EMIGRANTS FOR CANADA.

The *Ganges*, a fine screw-steamer, of 1899 tons register, W. S. Mason, commander, left the Victoria Docks, on Wednesday week, at eleven o'clock, having on board a large party of emigrants connected with the East-End Emigration Club, a society acting in union with the committee of the British and Colonial Emigration Fund. Of the entire number of 761 souls who were on the lists as going by this ship, only four were wanting at the moment the vessel cast off from the quay. Among the parties present to witness the departure of the emigrants were Lord and Lady Alfred Churchill, Sir T. Fowell Buxton; Mr. Andrew Johnston, M.P.; the Rev. J. F. and Mrs. Kitto, the Rev. W. J. Caparn, Mr. E. H. Currie, and others. The Rev. J. Cohen, Rector of Whitechapel, was also on board, going in the vessel to Canada as chaplain, in company with

Mrs. Cohen. Captain Forster, R.N., the chief emigration inspector for the port of London, was present in discharge of his official duties, and no effort seemed to be wanting to secure the comfort of the passengers. Close at hand, the screw-steamer *Tweed*, belonging to Messrs. Temperley's line of packets, displayed her bunting in gay profusion, being herself destined to start for Canada next morning with another large party of emigrants, under the auspices of the same societies. Besides the visitors on board the *Ganges*, many of whom accompanied the vessel as far down the river as Gravesend, a number of working people lined the adjacent quays, manifesting a lively interest in the proceedings, and cheering loudly as the *Ganges* proceeded out of dock. The emigrants were somewhat superior to the usual class, a circumstance partly attributable to the fact that they themselves contributed to the cost of their passage at the rate of £3 per statute adult. The actual cost of sending out this ship-load of emi-

grants will be rather more than £3400, exclusive of a sum of £1142, which has been advanced from Kelsall's Emigration Charity, to meet the expenses of an outfit, and to give the emigrant a start on his landing. The obvious deficit has been made up in various ways. Public subscriptions to the club have added £200 to the members' payments; the Poplar Board of Guardians has contributed a further sum of £100; assistance has also been given from the Manufacturers' Relief Fund; and the balance has been met by the British and Colonial Emigration Fund, of which the Lord Mayor is president, and towards which the Right Hon. G. J. Goschen, M.P., and his brother have each contributed £1000.

The Darien Canal project has been rejected by the Columbian Congress, notwithstanding the favourable terms which Columbia was supposed to have made.



EMIGRANTS BY THE SHIP GANGES DEPARTING FOR CANADA.

THE THEATRES.

Messrs. Mansell are active managers. On Monday they strengthened the usual attractions at the Lyceum by the production of a new operetta, graced with the music of Offenbach, entitled "Breaking the Spell." The plot is exceedingly simple, and the characters few. These consist of a Chelsea pensioner, an amorous gardener, and a soubrette. The two latter have had a lovers' quarrel, and Peter Bloom (Mr. G. F. Neville), in a fit of desperation, has enlisted for a soldier. He attributes this rash act to the influence exerted on his mind by old Matthews's violin, which set him dancing, and deprived him of judgment. Old Matthews (Mr. Aynsley Cook) regrets the circumstances, and seeks to remedy it by applying to the Duke of Marlborough for his discharge, leaving his fiddle in the custody of Jemmy Wood (Miss S. Dolaro). While he is gone, Peter Bloom, in a rage, breaks the fatal instrument. Great are the lamentations of the old man, when he returns; but Bloom, taking up the fragments, finds an inclosure consisting of a letter and a hundred-pound note. With this Bloom's discharge can be purchased, and a balance besides of sixty pounds

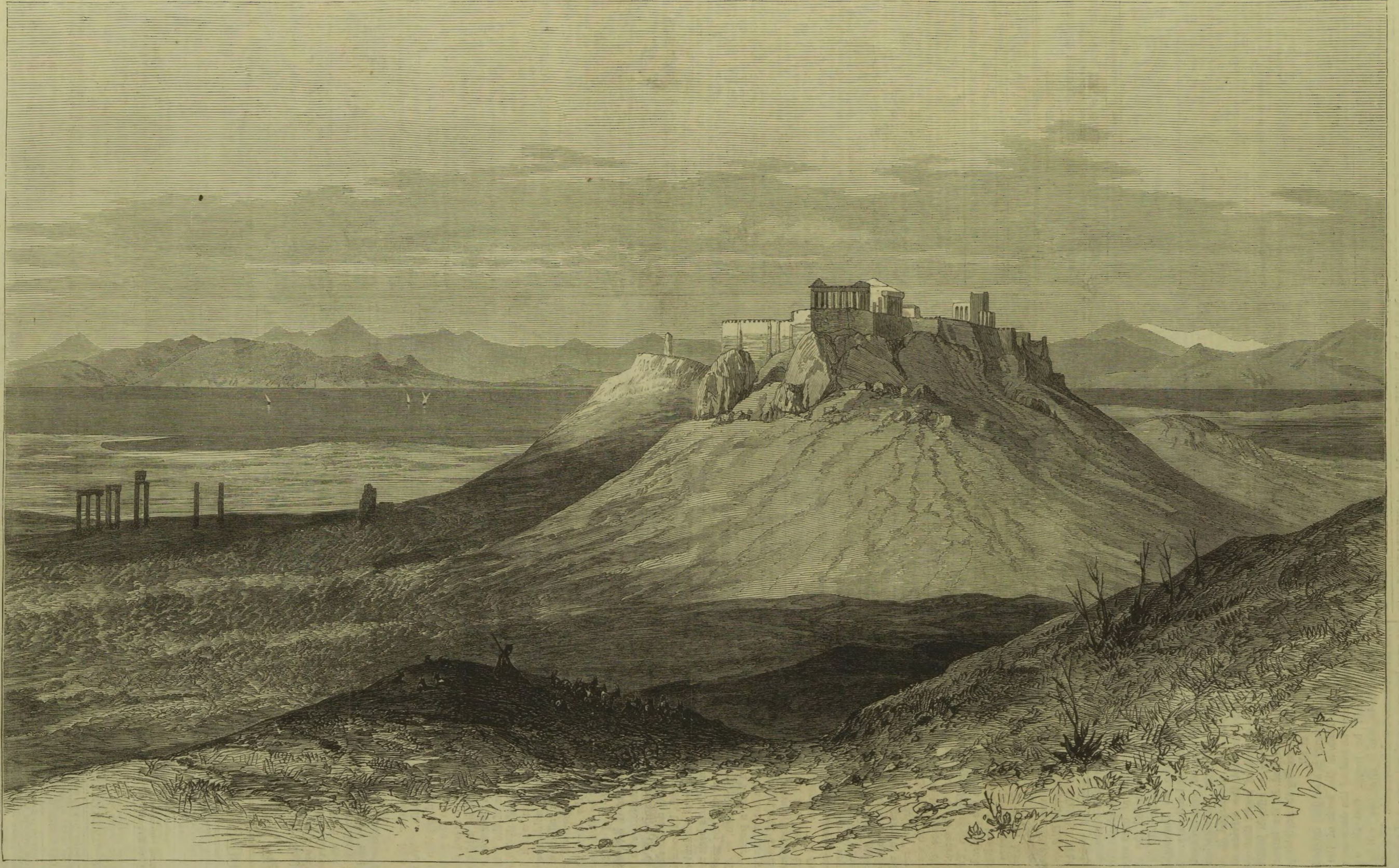
secured, to make all parties happy. The music is sparkling, lively, and effective; and the acting all that could be desired. It is illustrated with a scene painted by Mr. Hanns, representing Chelsea Hospital on the banks of the Thames, which is well painted, and skilfully set.

The field of theatrical speculation is enlarging on all sides; and, notwithstanding the number of new and commodious theatres which have been lately opened, smaller houses, long neglected, come into the market, and obtain encouragement.

Dr. Sedgwick-Saunders, chairman of the Special Library Committee, has presented to the Court of Common Council a report relative to the new library and museum which are to be erected on land belonging to the Corporation, and adjacent to the Guildhall, at an expense of £25,000. The report stated that the committee directed the City architect (Mr. Horace Jones) to prepare a plan and design, and they now submitted the designs and models which had been prepared by him. They recommended that muniment-rooms should be provided in a portion of the basement of the building at an expense not

exceeding £2800. The building will not only be of an ornate character, but will harmonise with the Guildhall and the adjacent property. The library proper will be reached from Basinghall-street, and will be on the upper floor. It will be 98 ft. long, 65 ft. wide, and 40 ft. high, and will be divided into three aisles, the centre being 33 ft. wide. In each of the side aisles there will be seven bays 12 ft. wide and 16 ft. deep; and it is also proposed to construct galleries. The centre aisle will hold at least 1000 persons, and will be connected by a corridor with the dais in the great hall. Below the library will be the museum, a room 82 ft. long, 19 ft. high, and 65 ft. wide. The latter room would be only 7 ft. beneath the level of the street, and a good light would thus be easily obtained. A committee-room is on each floor. Adjoining the library will be a public reading-room, a want long felt by the citizens of London. The report was adopted unanimously, and it was referred back to the committee for execution.

The installation of the Earl De Grey and Ripon as the Grand Master of the English Masons will take place on the 14th inst., at the Freemasons' Hall.



SKETCH FROM THE ROAD BETWEEN MARATHON AND ATHENS.

BIRTHS.

On March 18, at Government House, Belize, British Honduras, the wife of Lieutenant-Governor Longden, of a daughter.
On the 1st inst., at Oulton Park, the Hon. Mrs. Egerton, of a daughter.
On the 28th ult., at 14, Bruton-street, Lady Delamere of a son and heir.
On the 27th ult., at Cromwell-place, South Kensington, Lady Slade, of a daughter.
On the 30th ult., at Sheen House, East Sheen, Surrey, the wife of Captain Richard Bullen, Royal Engineers, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 7th ult., at St. Thomas's Cathedral, Bombay, by the Rev. C. T. Wilson, Senior Chaplain, Edward Doering, Esq., Bombay, to Clementina Agnes, eldest daughter of the late Major S. G. G. Orr, Madras Army. No cards.
On the 27th ult., at St. Luke's Church, Torquay, Devonshire, by the Rev. George John Dupuis, Rector of Woolsledon, Guildford, Surrey, Fellow and Vice-Proctor of Eton College, father of the bridegroom, assisted by the Rev. George Harris, Rector of St. Luke's, Arthur Edward Dupuis, Esq., Commander, Royal Navy, to Laura Sarah, youngest daughter of William Macartney McCay, Esq., of Leeson-street, Dublin.
On the 28th ult., at St. James's Church, by the Rev. W. Falconer, Rector, William John Dickson, Esq., H.M.'s Oriental Secretary of Legation at the Court of Persia, to Frances Josephine, youngest daughter of Captain Baker, R.N.
On Dec. 28, 1869, by special license, at Serpentine Water, near Rockhampton, Queensland, the residence of the father of the bride, by the Rev. J. T. Botting, M.A., Alfred Witt, Esq., J.P., of Miriam Vale, Port Curtis, fourth son of Dr. Witt, Spring-gardens, London, to Mina, eldest daughter of Thomas Hanbury Fernien, Esq., formerly of the Hon. E.I.C. service.
On the 28th ult., at St. George's, Hanover-square, by the Rector, the Rev. H. Howarth, B.D., Arthur Frederick, younger son of the late Rev. Richard Haddy Williams, Vicar of Grendon-Bishop and Avenbury, in the county of Hereford, to Isabelle Louisa, third daughter of I. F. Selot, Esq., of 50, Grosvenor-street, Grosvenor-square.
On the 18th ult., at the British Embassy Chapel, Pera, Constantinople, by the Rev. C. B. Gribble, Lieutenant Henry F. Woods, R.N., to Laura Sarah Madeleine, daughter of the late Charlton Whittall, jun., Esq., of Bournabat, near Smyrna.
On the 28th ult., at St. Mark's, Kensington Park, by the Rev. E. K. Kendall, Vicar, assisted by the Rev. Bernard Forster, Captain James Edmund Christie, late of the 42nd Royal Highland Regiment (the Black Watch), to Emma Clementina, fourth daughter of the late Samuel Platt, Esq., of Belmont, Surrey, and 10, Hyde Park-gardens. No cards.
On the 21st ult., after bans, at St. John's, Shirley, Surrey, by the Rev. A. Bridges, Rector of Beddington, Corbet John Coventry, Esq., late 7th Royal Fusiliers, youngest son of T. W. Coventry, Esq., to Honora Maria, youngest daughter of J. W. Sutherland, Esq., of Coombe, Croydon.

DEATHS.

On the 1st inst., at his residence, Golagh House, in the county of Monaghan, the Rev. W. H. E. Woodwright, Incumbent of Mulefad, aged 54 years.
On the 22nd ult., at Funchal, Madeira, Solina Mary, wife of Joseph Miller, Esq., of Las Palmas, Grand Canary, and youngest daughter of Lewis G. Hamilton, Esq., of Santa Cruz, Tenerife, aged 23.
On the 30th ult., at 26, Rue Wissocq, Boulogne-sur-Mer, Josephine Madeline, the beloved wife of J. S. S. Harvey, M.R.C.S.

* * * The charge for the insertion of Births, Marriages, and Deaths is Five Shillings for each announcement.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 14.

SUNDAY, May 8.—Third Sunday after Easter. Moon's First Quarter, 3.28 p.m. Divine service, St. Paul's Cathedral, 10.30 a.m.; the Rev. R. Collier Packman, B.A., Rector of Langdon Hill; 3.15 p.m., the Rev. Canon H. P. Liddon; special evening service, 7 p.m., the Bishop of Carlisle. Westminster Abbey, special evening service, the Rev. J. Moorhouse, Vicar of Paddington. Chapels Royal, Whitehall, morning, the Rev. Julius Shadwell, B.A., Rector of Washington; afternoon, the Rev. Professor Stanley Leathes; St. James's, morning, the Rev. Canon Mills, M.A.
MONDAY, 9.—The International Exhibition at Dublin opened by the Prince of Wales, 1865. Half-Quarter Day. British Museum reopens. Meetings: British and Foreign School Society, noon (Earl Russell, chairman); Royal Institution (general), 2 p.m.; London Institution Lecture, 4 p.m. (Professor Bentley on Botany); Royal Geographical Society (at Royal Institution), 8.30; Cantor Lectures at Society of Arts, 8 p.m. (Professor Williamson on Fermentation).
TUESDAY, 10.—First Exhibition of the National Gallery at Pall-mall, 1824. Drawing-room held by the Queen, 3 p.m. Meetings: Congregational Union, 10 a.m.; Home Missionary Society, 7 p.m.; Ethnological and Photographic Societies, 8 p.m.; Civil Engineers' Institution, 8 p.m.; University College, 8.30 p.m. (Mr. Poynter on Realism and Beauty); Royal Institution Lecture, 3 p.m. (Professor Blackie on Moral Philosophy).
WEDNESDAY, 11.—The Earl of Chatham, the great statesman, died, 1778. Meetings: Church Association, 10 a.m.; Literary Fund (dinner)—Lord Dufferin in the chair; British Archaeological Association, 4.30 p.m.; Printers' Pension and Almshouse Corporation (anniversary festival)—the Lord Mayor in the chair; Geological and Royal Microscopical Societies, 8 p.m.; Society of Arts, 8 p.m. (Mr. W. P. Andrew on Railways for India). The University of London new building to be inaugurated by the Queen.
THURSDAY, 12.—The Pacific Railway opened, 1869. Easter Term ends. Meetings: London Missionary Society, 10 a.m.; London Institution Lecture, 7.30 p.m. (Dr. Cobbold on Paleontology); Inventors' Institute, 7.30 p.m.; Mathematical Society, 8 p.m.; Royal Antiquaries' and Zoological Societies, 8.30 p.m.; Royal Institution, 3 p.m. (Professor Tyndall on Electricity).
FRIDAY, 13.—Old May Day. Pope Pius IX. born, 1792. Meetings: Congregational Union, 10 a.m.; Royal United Service Institution, 3 p.m. (Captain Stothard on Military Telegraphy); Royal Astronomical Society, 8 p.m.; Quakers' Microscopical Club, 8 p.m.; Royal Institution, 8 p.m. (the Rev. Canon Moseley on the descent of Glaciers, 9 p.m.).
SATURDAY, 14.—The ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS first published, 1842. Meetings: Newspaper Fund (dinner)—Mr. W. H. Smith, M.P., in the chair; British Archaeological Association (anniversary), 4.30 p.m.; Royal Botanic Society, 3.45 p.m.; Royal Horticultural Society Promenade, 4 p.m.; Royal Institution Lecture, 3 p.m. (Professor Grant on Comets).

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE
FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 14.

	Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
h	m	h	m	h	m	h	m
h	43	7	11	7	45	8	23
m	4	3	9	6	10	25	11
	25	11	21	33	—	0	1
	0	23	0	52	1	14	

THE WEATHER.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE
KEW OBSERVATORY OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.
Lat. 51° 28' 6" N.; Long. 0° 18' 47" W.; Height above Sea, 34 feet.

DAY	DAILY MEANS OF					THERMOM.		WIND.		Direction.
	Barometer Corrected.	Temperature of the Air.	Dew Point.	Relative Humidity.	Amount of Cloud.	Minimum, read at 10 A.M.	Maximum, read at 10 P.M.	Movement in 24 hours, read at 10 A.M. next morning.	Rain in 24 hours, read at 10 A.M. next morning.	
May 7 April	Inches.	°	°	°	0-10	°	°	Miles.	In.	
23	30.122	45.1	30.6	60	6	59.7	52.9	N. NW.	.212	-.030
27	30.056	40.0	28.1	66	7	36.8	47.2	NNW. NW.	.227	-.000
29	29.920	43.1	33.0	70	10	36.9	50.3	NNW. SW.	.208	-.067
30	29.656	49.0	44.1	84	9	40.8	58.0	WNW. W. WSW.	.518	-.000
1	29.895	41.3	32.8	74	9	42.3	55.4	WNW. NW.	.315	-.060
2	30.016	42.2	30.8	67	7	31.4	49.9	NNW. N. W.	.213	-.020
								WNW. NW.	.169	-.000

The following are the readings of the meteorological instruments for the above days, in order, at ten a.m.:

Barometer (in inches) corrected	30.106	30.101	29.907	29.735	29.528	29.341	29.291
Temperature of Air	47.9°	38.3°	46.1°	50.5°	50.0°	44.1°	44.9°
Temperature of Evaporation	41.7°	36.3°	39.0°	48.5°	43.5°	39.5°	40.1°
Direction of Wind	N.	NNW	NNW	WNW	WNW	NNW	WNW

THE FRESCOES OF MICHAEL ANGELO, in the Sixtine Chapel at Rome. The permanent Facsimiles of these marvellous works ON VIEW Daily from Twelve till Five, at the Gallery of the AUTOTYPE COMPANY (Limited), 36, Rathbone-place, Oxford-street (next door to Winsor and Newton's).

INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS in WATER COLOURS.—The THIRTY-SIXTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of this Society is NOW OPEN at their Gallery, 53, Pall-mall West, Daily, from Nine till Dusk. Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 6d. JAMES FAIRY, Sec.

DORE GALLERY.—GUSTAVE DORE, 35, New Bond-street.—EXHIBITION OF PICTURES, including TRIUMPH OF CHRISTIANITY, ROSSINI, TITANIA, FRANCESCA DE RIMINI, at the New Gallery. Open Tea to Six. Admission, 1s.

THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.—The SIXTY-SIXTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN, at their Gallery, 5, Pall-mall East, from Nine till Seven. Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 6d. WILLIAM CALLOW, Secretary.

SIR NOEL PATON'S "MORS JANUA VITAE."—This impressive "sermon on canvas" (by special command dedicated to the Queen) on View Daily, at the PALM-MALL GALLERY, 49, Pall-mall (Mr. W. M. Thompson). Admission, 6d. Tea till Six.

THE ORATORIO CONCERTS, ST. JAMES'S HALL, WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, at Eight. J. Barby's New Sacred Cantata, "Rebekah," and Handel's "Alexander's Feast." Madame Lemmens Sherrington, Mr. Vernon Rigby, Mr. Lewis Thomas. Band and Chorus of 50. Conductor, Mr. Barby. Seals, 10s. 6d.; Balceny and Area (unreserved), 5s.; Admission, 3s., 2s., 1s. At Novello's, 1, Berners-street, and 35, Poultry; the principal Music-sellers; and Austin's, St. James's Hall.

BY SPECIAL DESIRE.—PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY. Conductor, Mr. W. G. Cousins.—MONDAY, MAY 9, Eight o'clock.—ST. JAMES'S HALL.—Symphonies in D (Haydn), and Pastoral (Beethoven); Overtures, "Oberon" (Weber), "Siege of Corinth" (Rossini); Concerto in A minor, Piano-forte, Madame Auspitz-Kohler (Schumann). Vocalist, Mlle. Emma di Murska. Stalls, 10s. 6d.; Tickets, 5s., 7s., 2s. 6d., Lamborn Cook and Co.'s, 63, New Bond-street; Austin's Ticket-office, Chappell's, Mitchell's, E. Olivier's; Keith, Prowse's; and A. Hays's.

MUSICAL UNION.—TUESDAY, MAY 10, quarter-past Three.—Rehearsal's Quartet (Op. 83) for Piano and Stringed, and Mozart's in E flat, for Wind Instruments; Quartet, C minor, Beethoven; Solos, Violoncello and Piano. Executants: De Graan, Rios, Bernhardt, L. Luback, Barret, Lazarus, Huchins, Paquis; and Pianoforte, Carl Reinecke. Tickets, 10s. 6d. each, at Lamborn Cook, Olivier and Mitchell, Bond-street; and Austin, at St. James's Hall. J. ELLA, 9, Victoria-square, S.W.

THE LONDON GLEE AND MADRIGAL UNION (Established 1859)—Miss J. Wells, Miss Eyles, Mr. Baxter, Mr. Cones, Mr. Lawler, and Mr. Land (Director)—will COMMENCE their Twelfth Annual Series of THURSDAY AFTERNOON CONCERTS, at ST. JAMES'S HALL, on MAY 19. Solo Pianist, Mr. Sydney Smith. Subscription Stall Series of Five Concerts (transferable), 21s., at Mr. Mitchell's, 53, Old Bond-street; and Mr. Austin's, St. James's Hall, Piccadilly.

MR. HENRY LESLIE'S CONCERT, WEDNESDAY NEXT, MAY 11, at ST. JAMES'S HALL.—Rossini's "Stabat Mater" and Miscellaneous Selection.—Mlle. Nibson, Madame Moubert, Madame Trebell-Bettini, and Madame Aratella Gaddard. Vocalist, Signor Mengini, Signor Bettini, Signor Foli, and Mr. Sanley. Mr. Henry Leslie's Choir. Full Band. Organist, Mr. John C. Ward. Conductor, Mr. Henry Leslie.

Mlle. CHRISTINE NILSSON'S First Appearance this Season, at ST. JAMES'S HALL, on WEDNESDAY MORNING NEXT, MAY 11, at Mr. LESLIE'S CONCERT, commencing at 2.30. Sofa Stalls, 21s.; Area Stalls, 10s. 6d.; Balceny Stalls, 15s. and 10s. 6d.; Balceny and Area (unreserved), 5s.; Gallery, 3s. 6d.

HERR ERNST PAUER'S MORNING CONCERT will take place at the HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS, on MONDAY, MAY 16, at Three o'clock. Herr Pauer will introduce his Transcription of Sebastian Bach's celebrated Chaconne, a Divertissement on Two Values of Schubert, and several new Compositions. Herr Reinecke will perform, for the first time in England, his new Duet for Two Pianos, on the French air "La Belle Grisélidis." Vocalists—Mlle. de Salewska, Miss Alice Fairman, and Signor Garcia. Instrumentalists—Harp, Mlle. Heerman; Violin, Herr Heerman; Clarinet, Mr. Henry Lazarus; Violoncello, Signor Platt; Pianoforte, Herr Carl Reinecke and Herr Ernst Pauer. Reserved Seats, 10s. 6d.; Single Tickets, 5s.; may be had of Robert W. Olivier's Music Warehouse, 19, Old Bond-street; at Herr Pauer's Residence, 39c, Ouslow-square, South Kensington; and at the principal Music Warehouses.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—The New MAY GUINEA SEASON TICKET (Children under Twelve, and Schools of ten or more, Half a Guinea) admits to the Grand Opening Musical Festival, this day (Saturday), May 7. Eight Grand Summer Concerts. Grand Flower Shows, May 21 and June 11. Great Rose Show, June 25. Great Pyrotechnic Displays and Illumination of Fountains. Operas in English. Archery Fêtes, July 7, 8, 9. Saturday Concerts throughout the Winter and Spring.

And generally to the end of April, 1871.
"The most absurdly good guinea's worth that ever spread itself over a whole year's rational recreation."—Vide Critique.
The large and constant increase in the number of Season-Ticket Holders is, doubtless, due both to the low rates at which the tickets are issued, and to the very liberal provision made for the entertainment of those who hold them; in reference to which it may be remarked that the year no less than £2,000 was expended on music and other special attractions, to the whole of which Season-Ticket Holders were admitted.
These Tickets, with Programme of New Season, and 5s. Admissions for Next Saturday's Opening Festival, at the Crystal Palace; 2, Exeter Hall; and of the usual Agents.
NOTE.—Every frequent visitor of the Palace should have the Two-Guinea First-class Railway Season-Ticket, available from any station on either line for twelve months. For list of stations, see Season Programme.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Gardens and Park in great beauty, the Lawns and Meadows in the fresh verdure of spring; the Chestnuts and Magnolias in bloom. A visit just now peculiarly enjoyable. Wet or Dry, the Palace equally delightful. All approaches under cover. Fine Arts and Industrial Courts—New Picture Galleries—Statues, Portrait Busts—Fountains Playing, &c.
Monday to Friday next, One-Shilling Days. See Daily Advertisements for special attractions.
Saturday—FIRST GRAND SUMMER and FASHIONABLE PROMENADE. Admission by Tickets, on sale up to Friday evening; by payment at doors, 5s. Guinea Season-Tickets free.

CREMORNE—Lessee and Manager, Mr. JOHN BAUM.

CREMORNE.—NOW OPEN for the SEASON (Wet or Dry). Admission One Shilling.

CREMORNE.—Magnificent Orchestra of 50, conducted by M. Arban; Hawkes and Co.'s Excelsior Brass Band, conducted by Sibold; Grand Romantic Ballet of Giselle, or the Willis; Ballet Comique; Conjurings; Acrobatic Performances; Christy Minstrel Entertainments; Steam Circus; Magnificent Pyrotechnic Display, by Wells; concluding with a Grand Ball on the Crystal Platform. EVERY EVENING. Open on Sundays by Refreshment Card, 6d.

CREMORNE.—Mlle. CLAVELLE, Première Danseuse de Giselle, at Ten.

CREMORNE.—DINNERS, including a Pint of Bordeaux, from 3s. 6d., being a choice of Soup, Fish, Entrees, Joints, Sweets, Salad, and Cheese. Also, Superior Dinners, at 5s. 6d., 7s. 6d., and 10s. 6d., including all the delicacies of the season. Turf, 2s. 6d. per plate. Sunday, May 8, Grand Table d'Hôte at Half-past Six. Chef de Cuisine, F. J. Lindsey.

ST. JAMES'S HALL, Piccadilly.—The New Tenor, Mr. CYRUS W. NEILE.—See following extract from the "Daily News," Tuesday, May 3:—"THE CHRISTY MINSTRELS.—Last night an acquisition of no ordinary character in the shape of a new Tenor, was made to this popular company. His name is Cyrus W. Neile; and the sanguine expectations formed by the proprietary (Mr. G. W. Moore and Mr. Fredk. Burgess) were amply justified, it is not too much to say, by the result. The hall was crowded, and the plaudits which the singing of the brilliant tenor evoked could not possibly have been more enthusiastic than they were—gratifying alike to the performer and to those whose enterprise and sound appreciation the public may feel justly indebted for this solid acquisition to the vocal strength of the Christy Minstrels' entertainment. The first song which Mr. Neile undertook was an original ballad, 'Pretty swallow, homeward fly,' written and composed by Mr. Charles Blampham, whose ability in such work is exclusively devoted to the Christys; and though the song was claimed for him by Mr. Moore on the score of its being Mr. Neile's first appearance, demonstration unmistakable was afforded, before the finish of the first stanza, that, besides a voice of remarkable compass, and power, and richness, the excellent likewise possessed a confidence rarely met with in one so youthful. Notwithstanding the strict injunction, rarely departed from, that neither songs nor any other of the Christys' executions should be encored, owing to the length of the programme, Mr. Moore was compelled to give way to the demands of the audience on this occasion by directing the new tenor to repeat the last verse, which Mr. Neile did with even more power and sweetness than he had executed the original performance."

ST. JAMES'S HALL, Piccadilly.—CHRISTY MINSTRELS. The success of the new Tenor, Mr. CYRUS W. NEILE has far exceeded the very sanguine anticipations formed by the Proprietors. Indeed, such an ovation as Mr. Neile received at the termination of his song (on Monday evening) has rarely, if ever, been witnessed in this country; the spontaneous outburst of enthusiastic applause from a densely-crowded audience created a sensation that will not speedily be forgotten.

ST. JAMES'S HALL, Piccadilly.—Such a Success as that achieved by Mr. CYRUS W. NEILE, the CHRISTYS' new Tenor, has rarely been attained by any singer that has appeared in England for a great number of years past. Throughout the very large and fashionable audience present on the occasion of his debut, Mr. Neile, by one opinion prevailed, as the almost electric burst of applause which followed the conclusion of his song amply testified—viz., that Mr. Neile was the fortunate possessor of one of the most pure and remarkably beautiful tenor voices ever heard.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.—Mr. CYRUS W. NEILE, the CHRISTYS' New Tenor, sings up to C sharp from the chest with the utmost ease, this remarkable note being half a tone higher than Herr Wachtel's celebrated "Ut do poitrine." See Criticisms in the Daily Telegraph, Daily News, Standard, and Morning Advertiser during the past week. All pronounce Mr. Neile the finest Tenor heard in England for many years past.

ST. JAMES'S HALL, Piccadilly.—The original and only recognised CHRISTY MINSTRELS (Messrs. George W. Moore and Frederick Burgess, Sole Proprietors) all the year round, Every Night at Eight; Wednesdays and Saturdays, Three and Eight. The third consecutive year at this hall in an uninterrupted season. The great company now permanently increased to Forty-one Performers. Partonals, 5s.; Stalls, 2s.; Raised Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. Juveniles under Twelve Half Price to Stalls and Area; Children in arms not admitted. Doors open for the Day Performances at 2.30; for the Evening Ditto at 7.30. No Fees or Extra Charges whatsoever. Ladies can retain their Bonnets in all parts of the Hall. General Manager, Mr. FREDERICK BURGESS.

MR. D. D. HOME will give his next RECITATION, with Musical Accompaniment, at the HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS, on WEDNESDAY EVENING NEXT. He will be assisted by Mr. Richard Blagrove and Mr. E. H. Prout. Stalls, 5s.; Reserved Seats, 3s.; Admission, 1s., at the Office of the Hanover-square Rooms; and Robert W. Olivier's, 19, Old Bond-street.

MR. and Mrs. GERMAN REED (Last Season) in AGES AGO, with Mr. Arthur Cecil. Every Evening, except Saturday, at Eight; Thursday and Saturday, at Three.—ROYAL GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street. Admission, 1s., 2s., 3s., and 5s. To conclude with BEGGAR MY NEIGHBOUR (a Blind Man's Bonfire), a new adaptation of Offenbach, by J. C. Burnand.

W. S. WOODIN'S 140th REPRESENTATION at the EGYPTIAN HALL, Piccadilly, with his Famous and Original CARPET-BAG and SKETCH-BOOK Entertainment, Every Evening, except Saturday, at Eight; Saturday Mornings at Three. Box-office open from Ten till Five. Manager, Mr. Dudley.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.—Reappearance of Mr. SOTHERN in a New Comedy, BARWISE'S BOOK, in which Mr. Sothern, Mr. Buckstone, Mr. Compton, Mr. Chippendale, Mr. Kendal, Miss Robertson, Mrs. Frank Matthews, and Miss Gwynne will appear. Preceded by NO SONG, NO SUPPER. After the Comedy, A REGULAR FIX—Mr. Sothern.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Every Evening, FROU-FROU and LA BELLE SAUVAGE. Misses Emily Thorne, Everard, Mr. Sol Smith, and Lionel Brough, in the Burlesque; Mlle. Beatrice, Misses Henrade, Lovell, Turner, and Messrs. Sol Smith, Young, and Lionel Brough, in the Comedy.

NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE.—Last Six Nights of Mr. J. L. Toole, the popular Comedian, in UNCLE DICK'S DARLING; and Miss Julia Mathews, the original Grand Old Comedian, in J. T. Douglas's new Opera Bouffe, GUY FAWKES. EVERY EVENING. 100 Ladies as the Court of King James I.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON: SATURDAY, MAY 7.

No subject of greater interest for English-speaking or English-reading people can be brought before them than the topic which occupied the Convocation of the Southern Province on Tuesday last, and which was then discussed in both Houses, though in great amplitude by the prelates, as becometh their position as leaders and guides of the Church of England. We allude, of course, to the Revision of the English Bible.

It is late in the day to enter into the question whether such a revision is desirable. We may venture to assume that the most thoughtful portion of the English people has reluctantly assented to the proposition that, in the present state of scholarship, it is not desirable that the ministers of religion should find, in addition to the great difficulties which must ever be in their way, a grave difficulty arising from the imperfect state of the text to which they have to appeal as the standard of their teaching. Those whose reverence for the version which is taught us in youth, and for whose generally noble language those who have learned it learn also an affection which almost amounts to veneration, have acquired something even higher still. They so prize the Book that they cannot endure that its power should be diminished by blemishes which can be removed gently and cautiously, and they would have ill studied its lessons if they had not mastered any sentiment which can interfere with the fullest and most lucid revelation of the meaning of the sacred oracle. Therefore no old habit of love, no attachment to a phraseology, for the most part superb, but occasionally obsolete or obscure, will induce the real student of the Book to interfere with a process which has been rendered, by the lapse of years, as necessary as was the rectification of the calendar. Of mere literary criticism, or of the dislike of those who have long drawn from a purer "well of English undefiled" than that of which the words were written, to see old words explained away, old archaisms dispensed with, we need say little, because, honourable as such a feeling is, it would be carried too far if it were indulged at the expense of sacred interests. Yet for this class, of whom we would speak with the utmost respect, and with whom we should feel were the subject any other English book in the world, there is ample consolation. The glorious old text will still be theirs, save in cases where change is "absolutely necessary"—mere emendation is proposed to be consigned to the margin, where they have been accustomed to look for "various" readings. To do less than is suggested by Convocation were to treat the subject too lightly; all must rejoice that the Church Parliament does not ask leave to do more.

The debate in the Upper House on Tuesday was prefaced by a brief discussion on the desired changes in the Lectionary. Upon these, although, as the Bishop of Llandaff observed, if an angel from heaven were to draw up a code, it would be cavilled at, there has been so much agreement that it may be taken for granted that the right thing has been done. The unanimity of the Prelates seems to testify that, as the same Bishop said, the result would be satisfactory to the Church. The inequality of the lengths of the lessons, some of which the Bishop of Winchester remarked were seven verses and some seventy in length; the inappropriate selections for the holidays, and other points which will be at once appreciated by the regular churchgoer, have occupied the attention of the Revising Committee, and may be held to have been well dealt with by men who so thoroughly comprehend the objections to the existing Lectionary. Members of the Church of England may be congratulated upon the skill with which those to whom Convocation intrusted the duty of suggestion have discharged it, and it is well, especially at this time, that the service of the Anglican Church should be cleared of aught that occasions just dissatisfaction to Churchmen, or affords justifiable ground of censure by those who find in the imperfections of the ritual a reason for advocating the variable practice of those who have no ritual at all.

But the Lectionary is a subject interesting to Churchmen only. The Bible is the book of the entire nation, and, whatever may be said of the decrease of ecclesiastical influence, it will be found that the version which is "appointed to be read in churches" will be read in chapels, and school-houses, and households. Therefore the question at once becomes a national one; and when the time comes for carrying out the proposals of Convocation we trust that some means may be sought and found for obtaining, as far

as is practicable, the concurrence of the most learned and eminent of English scholars, whether they belong to the Establishment or do not. The wider the basis on which the revision is founded the less likelihood will there be for arbitrary or needless alterations, and the more rapidly will the revised version become that of the majority of the nation. True scholarship will assert itself, and those who possess it will be far too conscious of its value and its responsibilities to allow any sectarian bias to interfere with their assent to the best rendering or the best exposition that can be procured. The days are gone by when good men believed that a good cause could be helped by the unauthorised interpolation of words into the genuine text. No scholar needs to be reminded that in the version of the New Testament appointed to be read in churches such interpolation has been made, or that the clergy are compelled to read what most of them know to have been inserted at a date much later than that which is assigned to the real text. We believe that it is in the power of Convocation to obtain for the proposed work such scholarly assistance as has never yet been brought to bear upon a translation of the oracles of religion.

The Bishop of Winchester led the way in the reformation debate, and regretted that at present the Northern Province had sent no aid to the Southern; adding, with his usual felicity, that the acumen of the north would have been most valuable to those engaged in the work. We are not in Convocation secrets; but we may suppose that this difficulty will be surmounted, as other difficulties have been, and the more that the name of the Archbishop of York appears as that of one of the advisers to whom another and powerful body of scholars, engaged in similar work, may apply in the event of a tribunal of appeal being required. Clearly, this revision should be done at the command of the English clergy, and not alone by order of those within the diocese of Canterbury. Dr. Wilberforce moved the adoption of certain resolutions, and they will be eagerly, not to say jealously, scanned. Convocation feels that a revision of the Scriptures is desirable—that it should comprise both marginal readings and such emendations as are necessary—that it contemplates no new translation, nor any alteration except where, in the judgment of the most competent scholars, it is necessary—that therein the style of the original is to be followed (a right thing to wish for, but the attempt will induce very severe criticism), and that a body of the members of Convocation shall be nominated, with liberty to invite the co-operation of any eminent scholars, of whatever nation or religion. To these proposals we see not that objection can fairly be taken; but the best assurance is that which was given by the learned and eloquent Bishop towards the close of his speech—"We intend to make as little change as possible." Let this declaration be invariably kept in mind by all who have to do with the work, and then, there is every reason to believe, the English version of the text-book of the Christian faith will be rendered as faithful as it has hitherto been majestic. Such a performance will be the *magnum opus* of the reign of Queen Victoria.

THE COURT.

The Queen, Princess Louisa, and Princess Beatrice attended Divine service, on Sunday, at Whippingham church. The Rev. George Prothero and the Rev. J. Dalton officiated. Prince Arthur attained his twentieth year.

Her Majesty, on Tuesday evening, received the gratifying intelligence of Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein having given birth to a daughter.

The Queen, with the members of the Royal family, has taken her customary out-of-door exercise.

Lady Elizabeth De Ros, the Right Hon. G. J. Goschen, and the Rev. George Prothero and Mrs. Prothero have dined with her Majesty at Osborne House.

The Queen, accompanied by Princess Louisa, Prince Leopold, and Princess Beatrice, and attended by her suite, has returned to Windsor Castle from Osborne House.

Viscountess Clifden and the Hon. Caroline Cavendish have succeeded Lady Waterpark and the Hon. Flora Macdonald as Lady in Waiting and Maid of Honour in Waiting to her Majesty.

COURT ARRANGEMENTS.

The Queen will hold a Drawingroom, on Tuesday next, at Buckingham Palace.

A state concert will be given at Buckingham Palace on Wednesday next.

A state ball will be given, at the same palace, on Tuesday, the 17th inst.

THE QUEEN'S LEVEE.

By command of the Queen a Levée was held, on Wednesday, at St. James's Palace, by the Prince of Wales, on behalf of her Majesty. Presentations to his Royal Highness at this Court are, by the Queen's pleasure, considered as equivalent to presentations to her Majesty. The Duke of Cambridge, Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, Prince Teck, and the Nawab Nazim of Bengal, with his sons, Prince Ali Kudr Hassan Ali Bahadur and Prince Soliman Kudr Wahid Ali Bahadur, were present at the Court. The usual state ceremonial was observed. The Prince of Wales entered the Throne-room shortly after two o'clock. The presentations numbered 150.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES.

The Prince and Princess of Wales continue at Marlborough House.

Their Royal Highnesses, with the Prince of Leiningen, went to the private view of the exhibition of the Royal Academy at Burlington House on Thursday week.

The Prince and Princess went to the Prince of Wales's Theatre on the following evening.

On Saturday evening the Prince dined at the annual dinner of the Royal Academy at Burlington House.

On Sunday the Prince and Princess attended Divine service in the Chapel Royal, St. James's. The Rev. the Sub-Dean and the Rev. J. V. Povah officiated.

On Tuesday the Prince went to Newmarket races. In the evening his Royal Highness went to the Princess's Theatre.

On Wednesday the Prince held a Levée. In the evening

the Prince and Princess were present at the Society of Arts conversazione at the South Kensington Museum.

The Countess of Morton has succeeded the Hon. Mrs. Stonor as Lady in Waiting to the Princess.

Lieutenant-Colonel Teesdale has succeeded Major Grey as Equerry in Waiting to the Prince.

ACCOUCHEMENT OF PRINCESS CHRISTIAN.

The accouchement of Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein (Princess Helena of England) took place, on Tuesday, at Frogmore House, Windsor Park. Her Royal Highness was safely delivered of a daughter at seven o'clock in the evening. Dr. Fairbank was in attendance. The Princess is progressing as favourably as possible. The infant Princess is well.

Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein dined with Colonel Aitchison and the officers of the second battalion Scots Fusilier Guards, at the infantry barracks, Windsor, yesterday week.

The Duke and Duchess of Abercorn have returned to town from Eastwell Park, near Ashford.

The Duke and Duchess of Marlborough and the Ladies Churchill have arrived at their residence in St. James's-square from Blenheim Palace.

The Duke and Duchess of Cleveland and Lady Mary Primrose arrived at their residence in St. James's-square on Monday from Battle Abbey, near Hastings.

The Duke and Duchess of Richmond have arrived at their residence in Belgrave-square from Goodwood, Sussex.

The Marquis and Marchioness of Westminster have arrived in town from the south of France.

The Marquis and Marchioness of Bristol and Lady Mary Hervey have arrived in town from Ickworth Park.

The Marquis and Marchioness of Huntly have arrived at their residence in Upper Grosvenor-street.

The Hon. Mrs. Grey, widow of the late General Grey, and family, are about to leave the Norman Tower, Windsor Castle, for St. James's Palace, where a residence has been assigned by the Queen to the bereaved widow. Colonel and the Hon. Mrs. Ponsonby will occupy the Norman Tower.

FASHIONABLE ENTERTAINMENTS.

The Russian Ambassador and Baroness Brunnow gave a dinner, yesterday week, at Chesham House, in celebration of the birthday of the Emperor of Russia. Later in the evening Baroness Brunnow had a reception.

The Swedish Minister and Baroness Hochschild entertained a distinguished company at dinner, on Monday evening, at the Swedish Legation, Great Cumberland-place.

Mr. Brandling and the Countess of Jersey entertained a select circle at dinner, on Wednesday evening, in Wilton-place. Later in the evening the Countess received a small party.

The Hon. Lady Nugent had a dancing-party, on Wednesday night, at the family residence in Curzon-street.

Lord and Lady Ashburton had a dinner party, on Wednesday evening, at Bath House, Piccadilly.

THE CHURCH.

The Rev. F. J. Atwood, on his leaving the curacy of Hempsted for St. Margaret's, Prestwich, received a handsome silver salver and a purse of £10 from the parishioners.

The parishioners and friends of the Bishop-Elect of Chichester have presented him with a service of plate on leaving Middleton, where he had been for thirty-five years.

The Bishop of Exeter preached, on Thursday week, at the reopening of Saltash church, Cornwall, on which £1000 has been expended, exclusive of other recent restorations.

Mr. Chamberlayne, of Cranbury Park, near Winchester, has given £600 and the land for the building of a new church in Northam, a suburb of Southampton.

Longdon church, near Tewkesbury, was reopened yesterday week—the Rev. A. C. Lefroy, Vicar, having acted as architect in the expenditure of some £700 in its restoration.

The Bishop of Oxford preached, on the 21st ult., at the reopening of Shiplake church, near Reading, which has been restored by Mr. Street, A.R.A. The offertory, which exceeded £130, included a cheque for £50 from Admiral Swinburne.

The new schools of St. Stephen's parish, Devonport, built for 600 children, by Mr. St. Aubyn, architect, at a cost of £1500, on a site granted by Sir E. St. Aubyn, Bart., the lord of the manor, were opened on Thursday week, after a service in the church by Lord Eliot.

Landkey church, Devon, having been restored by Mr. White, architect, was reopened on Wednesday week—the Bishop of Exeter preaching and afterwards celebrating holy communion. The Acland aisle was restored at the cost of the venerable Baronet of that name, his family having sprung originally from that parish, and a handsome reredos was the gift of a resident.

A meeting in connection with the Bishop of London's Fund was held, at King's College, on Monday. Dr. Jackson, who presided, said there was no reason for disappointment in the pecuniary results of the first half of the decennial period. At the same time it must be borne in mind that the population of the area for which the fund was available increased at the rate of 32,000 a year.

At All Saints' Church, Clifton, on Easter Day, a new organ, which cost £1000, was used for the first time. An east window, designed by Powell and executed by Hardman, has also been erected, at a charge of £500. This church, which has already had £14,000 expended on it, is still far from finished; and the Rev. R. W. Randall, Vicar, has issued a statement in which he says that as much more will be required to complete the work, of which £8000 is necessary for immediate expenditure.

The Convocation of the Province of Canterbury met, on Tuesday, for the disposal of business. The Bishops have decided unanimously to accept the alterations proposed by the Ritual Commissioners in the Church lessons, and voted an address to her Majesty asking that the new scheme might become law. Their Lordships were also of one mind about the proposal to revise the Authorised Version of the Scriptures, and passed a resolution appointing a committee to undertake the work, with an express proviso that the committee should be at liberty to ask the co-operation of competent scholars, "to whatever nation or religious body they may belong." The right rev. prelates were very sanguine of the success of their project. The members of the Lower House declined, without further consideration, to co-operate with the House of Bishops in the appointment of a committee on Biblical revision. A resolution was sent down to them asking that they would be pleased to appoint a number of their own body equal to the number appointed by the Bishops as a revision committee, but the request was resented as a breach of privilege. On Wednesday the Lower House had a debate on the Revised Lectionary,

which resulted in Dr. Jebb's proposal for delay being thrown out by 43 votes against 22. Ultimately, but not without several divisions, the House, by a majority, resolved to concur with the Bishops in an address to the Queen, praying her Majesty to sanction the new table of lessons.

THE MASSACRE OF ENGLISHMEN IN GREECE.

We present two Illustrations of the country between Athens and the Plain of Marathon, where the unfortunate party of English tourists were kidnapped, on Monday, the 11th ult., by the gang of robbers under the lead of the brothers Arvanitakis, who have long infested that mountainous district. Marathon, the scene of the ever-memorable battle, in the year 490 B.C., when the Athenians under Miltiades defeated the invading Persian army, is situated on the western shore of the Sunium promontory, which juts out southward from the mainland of Attica; while the Piræus, the seaport and suburb of Athens, is on its eastern shore. The width of this peninsula does not exceed twenty or thirty miles from the Gulf of Egina or Salamis, on the west side, to the Strait of Egripo, separating the island of Negropont or Euboea from the mainland, on the east side. Stretching farther up the coast of this strait, or narrow channel, to the north of Attica, lies the province of Thebes, into which the brigands carried four of their prisoners, after releasing the ladies and sending Lord Muncaster to Athens to fetch the ransom. The terrible end of this affair, on Friday, the 22nd, by the murder of the English gentlemen near Oropos, a village on the coast, where the brigands found their retreat cut off by the Greek troops, was reported in our last week's Number. The following is a more complete account of the whole matter:—

At half-past six on the morning of the 11th ult. the party, consisting of Lord and Lady Muncaster, Mr. Frederick Vyner, Mr. Herbert, one of the Secretaries of her Majesty's Legation, Count Boyl, Secretary to the Italian Legation, and Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd, with their young child, five years of age, left Athens in carriages for Marathon, under the escort of four mounted gendarmes, accompanied by a Suliot named Alexandros, the most experienced and intelligent dragoman in Greece. In traversing the plain they found a small detachment of six infantry soldiers, and afterwards twenty-five soldiers, apparently patrolling the road. After exploring the scene of one of the most interesting events in history, they started to return to Athens. The detachment of twenty-five men appears to have endeavoured to keep company with them, but was unable to do so; and they again passed the smaller party of six men, who succeeded in keeping tolerably close in their rear.

At half-past four in the afternoon, while entering a thickly wooded part of the road near the bridge of Pikermi, two mounted gendarmes riding one on each side of the carriages, and two in front, a volley was suddenly fired into them, killing one of the gendarmes and mortally wounding another. The road was immediately filled with brigands, who forced the occupants out of the carriages, using much violence, seizing Lady Muncaster, and tearing off her watch and pockets, and menacing the lives of all. They hurried their captives up the side of Mount Pentelicus, but had scarcely got fifty yards from the road when the six infantry soldiers came up and at once commenced firing into the brigands, who returned the fire. The soldiers, finding themselves overmatched (the brigands being twenty-eight in number), soon discontinued the fight.

The brigands then hurried their prisoners up the slopes of Pentelicus; and, after two hours' walking, they put the ladies on the horses of the dismounted gendarmes, and, with one servant, let them go to Athens. After the ladies had gone, the five gentlemen and Alexandros were compelled to walk with the brigands up and down wooded ravines, sometimes resting for half an hour, till about two o'clock next morning, when they stopped in a dry watercourse to kill and roast three lambs—the brigands making their captives sit round the fire, and pressing upon them the insides of the animals. Weariness and depression of spirits had deprived them of appetite, even if the food had been more attractive; and they partook of nothing except some black bread and water, which was all the nourishment they had for many hours.

Resuming their march, they halted again about daybreak, and all next day lay under some bushes: luckily it was fine, so that they did not suffer much. During that day they consulted what was to be done, and it was agreed to ask for one of their number to be allowed to go to Athens to arrange for the payment of the ransom they demanded and an amnesty. After several hours' talk between Alexandros and the captain of the band, the terms of ransom were settled so far that the captain of the brigands reduced the enormous sum demanded of £50,000 to the sum of £25,000. He would not, however, suffer any further discussion; but, growing impatient, said emphatically, "Finish quickly!" The captives then arranged that Lord Muncaster should be the person to go to Athens and make the arrangements necessary for his own and companions' release; a promise being exacted by the brigands that, failing his mission, he was to return, seeing that the lives of the others depended on his success. They promised to let Lord Muncaster go that night, but did not do so, as they could get no guide, and none of the brigands dared to be seen with one of their captives. All through the night they walked over boggy plains and up and down hills, wet through from heavy rain, in which they lay down for three hours, till six in the morning, when they started again, and then stopped for the day in a ravine, where a shepherd was found, and a small cart obtained in which Lord Muncaster proceeded to Athens.

He made arrangements for sending food and clothing to his friends, and for obtaining the money, which was promptly placed at his disposal by a merchant in Athens. The only difficulty lay in the transport of so large a sum in gold. It was necessary, however, to obtain from the Greek Government the promise of an amnesty for the brigands, with an order that they should not be pursued in the mean time. Mr. Erskine, the British Envoy at Athens, receiving a note from Mr. Herbert to beg his interference for this purpose, applied to General Soutzo, the Minister for War, who gave him a solemn promise that no attempt should be made to pursue the brigands until the captives were released; a threat having been made by the brigands that the least attempt to molest them would be instantly followed by the massacre of the whole party. Two or three days later Mr. Erskine had an interview with the Prime Minister, M. Zaimis, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and the Minister of the Interior, and afterwards with the King. They objected to grant the amnesty, because the King had no constitutional authority to do so, but they offered to pay the money for the ransom out of the Greek Exchequer, and they undertook that the brigands should not be attacked. Mr. Erskine then wrote to Arvanitakis, jointly with the Italian Minister, the Count della Minerva, to the following effect:—"There will be no difficulty as to the payment of the money, but you

must not insist on an amnesty, which Government have not the power to grant. Persons will be sent to treat with you, and in the mean time both the King and the President of the Council have assured the English Minister that you shall not be molested. Make your prisoners as comfortable as you can. You can even put them under cover in some rural habitation without fear."

On the 19th ult. a Greek officer, named Colonel Theagenes, aide-de-camp to General Church, left Athens with instructions to negotiate

for the release of the captives. He was instructed by the Government to inform the brigands that, if they would take the money and release the Englishmen, they could go on board the British ship of war Cockatrice, and leave the country for Malta; but they would not be permitted to quit the neighbourhood of Oropos, and go northward into Thessaly with their captives. They were surrounded in the village of Oropos by a force of 600 soldiers. It appears from the reports of Colonel Theagenes, and of Mr. Noel, the British Consul in Euboea, who came

over to see what help he could render, as well as from Mr. Herbert's own letter of the 21st to Mr. Erskine, that the brigand chiefs Arvanitakis would not submit to be confined to Oropos, pending the arrangement of terms. They still demanded either an amnesty for all their crimes, or that they should immediately be tried pro forma, and acquitted or pardoned, without being obliged to surrender, by the agency of a special court of assize to be sent to the place where they were. But they refused to stay in the village, and declared their

intention of leaving it that very day, threatening to kill the English gentlemen if the troops offered to stop them. This is what actually took place. They set out from Oropos at two o'clock in the afternoon, and were immediately pursued by a detachment of cavalry, under Captain Apostolides, to cut off their retreat northward. When they perceived the approach of the troops near Dhillissi, they stopped and shot Mr. Herbert and Mr. Lloyd. The soldiers, who saw this murderous act, became infuriated, and made a fierce attack on the brigands. Six



THE PLAINS OF MARATHON.

of them were killed, including Christos Arvanitakis, and one or two were taken alive. The others fled up the country, dragging Mr. Vyner and Count Boyl with them, as far as Skimatari, where they put these two gentlemen also to death. Their bodies were afterwards found and brought to Athens. They were mutilated in a shocking manner. There was a public funeral for Mr. Herbert and Mr. Lloyd, the King of Greece walking in the procession.

The shore or beach of Marathon lies north-east and south-west, and is the chord of an arc about four miles in length, the arc inclosing this celebrated plain. About the centre of the beach a small river, anciently called the Charadrus, falls into the sea in its course

from the mountains dividing the plain into two nearly equal portions. The land side of the plain is closely shut in by a lofty range of mountains, the eastern shoulder of Pentelicus terminating it to the southward. From Athens to the village of Marathon is about twenty-two miles. The road for nearly the whole distance is exceedingly bad; and in the mountains it consists of little more than the channels cut by the winter torrents. Several small valleys lead into the plain, winding round the mountains, but the general route from Athens enters the plain near the village of Marathon. There is, perhaps, no other spot in Europe more interesting or better worth visiting than is this celebrated battle-ground; but the interest lies almost entirely

in its associations, for the actual landscape is not beautiful. It has, of course, that breadth and beauty of colour which is found in all the landscape of the shores of the Archipelago; but there is no particular feature to strike the eye. The plain of Marathon is not picturesque. It consists of a breadth of gently-undulating ground, the higher parts of which are cultivated. At each extremity the land is low and marshy. There are two or three small villages upon it, with a few trees about them. The slopes of the mountains are in many places covered with myrtle, scrubwood, and small pines. The principal object of interest on the plain is the tumulus supposed to be the burial-place of the Athenians who fought and fell in the great

battle. This is simply a mound of earth about 60 ft. in diameter and 25 ft. in height. Though the mound is small, it is a striking object on the plain when seen from a distance. There are also some smaller mounds, trenches, and remains of tombs and monuments, all worthy of attention as being in some way or other connected with that great battle upon the result of which depended the destiny of Europe for all time.

Our View of Marathon is from a sketch by Mr. G. Andrews; the View of the Road to Marathon, with the Acropolis of Athens, is from a sketch by Mr. Harry Johnson. A View of Mount Pentelicus, by Mr. Johnson, will appear in our next Number.

SKETCHES FROM IRELAND.



INHABITANTS OF A BOG VILLAGE, NEAR CASTLEREAGH.

SEE PAGE 481.

SKETCHES IN PARLIAMENT.

In comparison to its former pace, the Irish Land Bill is making progress. The third clause, having been stripped, like Browning's "messenger that brought the news from Aix," of all its dead weight—that is, its encumbering amendments have been gradually disposed of, the great mass of them by being cast into the Parliamentary waste-basket—has at length passed. It may be only conjecture, but it has suggested itself to some minds that something of this acceleration is due to the reticence of the First Minister; for, whether taking heed to advice more than once given him by a leading journal, or possibly having had a hint from professional sources, he has abstained almost wholly from speaking, and has not pursued his hitherto course of doing nearly all the arguing himself. Besides, he has tactically varied the monotony of the everlasting Mr. Chichester Fortescue and the perennial Mr. Dowse, by inserting Mr. Lowe into the discussion, and, above all, by putting Lord Hartington forward to make, perhaps, the most liberal tenant-right speech that has yet been delivered, which, coming from the heir to large Irish estates, had great weight, while it dissipated rumours prevalent that this noble Lord was somewhat recalcitrant in the Cabinet on the Land Bill. One very amusing episode has occurred, and that was the withdrawal by Mr. Headlam of his obstructive amendment. The mode in which this sacrificial act was performed was curious, as evidenced by a most disinterested production by the hon. member of the accusations which had been made against him in this regard. He did not spare himself a gibe or an attribution of unworthy motive; and he read articles which accused him of opposing the Government because he is not now Judge Advocate General with a naïveté which was ineffable. To be sure, he was very emphatic in his denial of the censorious statements; but he looked the picture of discomfort, and capped the climax by walking out of the House and leaving his amendment to be ignominiously negatived. No notice seems to have been taken of a discovery of Sir John Gray, which goes to the root of the Irish question in all its phases. It is really very important, and it is to be wondered why it was overlooked at the time it was uttered and since. He said distinctly that the reason why Irish occupiers betook themselves to agrarianism was that they are not adequately supplied with a certain fertilising substance—in fact, with manure; and if they had this to their content they would not commit agrarian outrages. The solution of all existing difficulty is thus rendered simple, and statesmen have only to communicate with the Metropolitan Board of Works in order to tranquillise Ireland.

Probably not too many persons will trouble themselves to build up an opinion on the merits, pro or con, of the case of General Boxer, or inquire too curiously whether the State has been made to pay 25 per cent extra or so for cartridges in order that that gentleman may be rewarded for his inventive ingenuity; but most persons will be glad to know what is the system at the War Office by which a subordinate, presumably a copying-clerk, can interpolate words in a letter of the Secretary of State which give an exactly opposite meaning to that which was intended, and enable the little arrangement above mentioned to be carried out. No doubt Sir John Pakington was sufficiently in a state of indignant outrage when the matter was discussed one evening lately, and naturally he was hurt at finding that even he of all men could be taken in; but the public cry ought to be for an inquiry into that perpetual anomaly in our administration which is known familiarly as the "system."

During the penultimate disquisition on the vexed conventional inspection motion, which was expanded again to half-past three o'clock in the morning, it could not but be suggested that probably Mr. Newdegate was at that time the happiest man in the world. For was he not, for that occasion only, leader of the House of Commons, appointed to that post by a majority of two, and was he not stirring up religious strife, and making four or five hundred persons, then present and obliged to remain until all sorts of unholy hours, thoroughly uncomfortable? From his demeanour and the expression of his countenance it was to be gathered that this combination of circumstances had placed him in a position of exquisite self-satisfaction. There came, however, a time when a change must have come over his complacency; and certainly there came one over his face; for he has been most cleverly out-maneuvred and left in an attitude akin to that which one remembers of a caricature of a person in a post-chaise, the fore-part of which has parted from the body, while the deaf postboy quietly trots on with the horses, half lightened of their load. By a sort of inspiration, the Government, finding that it was of no use to attempt to deal in an ordinary way with an obstinacy which is the attribute of all bigots, resolved to give the hon. gentleman "rope enough;" for they rendered to him several precious hours of the time appropriated to the Land Bill in the first instance. Then, somehow, it was contrived that the debate should be renewed by Mr. Winterbotham, who, himself a Nonconformist, might well be supposed to be likely to influence those of the Dissenting Liberals who had been hitherto following Mr. Newdegate. The success which he achieved by his speech, as a masterpiece of logical reasoning and almost brilliant rhetoric, was one thing; but it was more than an admirable speech, inasmuch as it effected its purpose of detaching hitherto supporters from Mr. Newdegate, and prepared the way for the tactical address of Mr. Gladstone—tactical at once in its matter and its delivery—and his ingenious offer of a substitute for Mr. Newdegate's motion, which even the uttermost Roman Catholic member could not reasonably object to. The strategy was perfect in its inception and complete in its execution. The episodes in this discussion were some of them remarkable, and most of them tended to the end in view, the practical discomfiture of Mr. Newdegate. Thus the ridicule which Mr. Osborne threw around that gentleman was immense; and the Speaker was got to adopt the very unusual course, for him, of deciding that a member could not speak three times in one debate. Then the sense of the ridiculous was intensified by the fact that after Mr. Winterbotham's overwhelming speech there rose, of all persons in the world, Mr. Bromley Davenport, who was not even mildly facetious, as his general manner is, but was simply maudering, having evidently not thought of what he was to say in support of his Parliamentary colleague. Then there happened a very curious divergence between two distinguished men; for whereas at one point of the debate, when it seemed desirable that he should do so, Mr. Gathorne Hardy announced his intention of opposing Mr. Newdegate; subsequently, when matters had altered little, Mr. Disraeli stated that he should vote with him; and it actually happened that Mr. Hardy and his son went into one lobby, whilst his brother, Mr. John Hardy, went into the opposite one, with Mr. Disraeli.

The discussion on the commercial treaty with France, initiated by the "unicorn" member for Manchester, Mr. Birley, had many notable features, especially as producing a

revival of the consideration of the respective questions of protection and free trade. But even Mr. Staveley Hill's inconsequent and loose utterances with regard to the resurrection of the long-immured principle of retaliatory duties paled before the singular recantation of one of his early ideas, once deeply cherished, by Lord John Manners; for whereas, in some magnificent lines which have become household words, in a satirical sense, in this country, he intimated his readiness to cast commerce to the winds rather than that a certain class should be sacrificed, now, differently advised, he was furiously imbued with the notion that the treaty in question was a nefarious attempt to destroy that very commerce. Possibly some people might think that he was edifying in neither enunciation.

A triumph of the champions of woman's rights has to be recorded; for, so far as a very mixed and motley majority is concerned, the first step in establishing a female franchise has been made. On the debate which preceded this vote—remarkable as it was, in many ways—it may be said that, whether it was owing to the nature of the subject or not, there was, despite of the factitious energy of the speakers, about the speeches of the supporters of the measure a feebleness of rhetoric, a tone which might be almost characterised as feminine, especially in the case of Mr. Jacob Bright, the proprietor of the measure—a notable exception, however, being Mr. Muntz, who showed that no subject can in the least emasculate him.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY, APRIL 29.

Some discussion took place on the High Court of Judicature Bill, which the Lord Chancellor proposed to re-commit for the purpose of introducing amendments to meet objections raised to the measure on the second reading. The debate was confined exclusively to the legal peers present—Lords Romilly, Cairns, Westbury, and Penzance—and was brought to a conclusion upon the understanding that the committee of the bill should be postponed for a few days.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY, APRIL 29.

A number of petitions was presented from Scotland in favour of the bill for removing the electoral disabilities of women.

Mr. Monsell stated that there is no intention on the part of Government to withdraw the troops from Natal.

The attention of the House was called to the case of Colonel Boxer, who, it is alleged, has been compelled to resign the office he held in the Royal Laboratory, and has consequently been deprived of the advantages from his inventions that he is fairly entitled to. Mr. O'Reilly moved for a Select Committee to inquire into and report on all the circumstances of the case. Sir J. Pakington and Mr. Cardwell defended the course which the War Office had taken in requiring Captain Boxer to resign. The motion was withdrawn.

Mr. Gladstone, in reply to Sir L. Palk, intimated that as soon as the Irish Land Bill was disposed of the Education Bill should have the share of attention now monopolised by that measure.

Mr. C. Bentinck animadverted on the proceedings in connection with the capture of the Tornado, and, while moving for correspondence, called upon the Government to take up the question. Mr. Otway said that the Government had no right to demand more than that the matter should have a fair trial in the Spanish Courts, and so far there seemed to be no cause to complain of the conduct of the Spanish authorities. After some observations from other members the subject was allowed to drop.

The Poor Relief (Metropolis) Bill was passed through Committee, and the Marriage with a Deceased Wife's Sister Bill was read the third time and passed.

A new writ was ordered for Longford, in room of Mr. Greville Nugent, unseated.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

The bill to legalise marriage with a deceased wife's sister was brought up from the Commons and read the first time.

Their Lordships gave a second reading to the County Court Building Bill, and passed the Customs (Isle of Man) Bill and the Survey of Great Britain Bill through Committee.

In answer to the Marquis of Clanricarde, Earl Granville said that the Lord Privy Seal would shortly introduce a bill to repeal the Ecclesiastical Titles Act; and that the marriage law of Ireland was under the consideration of the law officers with a view to legislation this Session.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

The Marquis of Hartington gave notice that next Monday he will bring in the long-promised bill for amending the law relating to proceedings at elections.

It was stated by Mr. Otway that the Ambassador of the Sultan had left at the Foreign Office a protest against the loan about to be raised by the Viceroy of Egypt; but it was the opinion of the Government that the matter was one solely affecting the capitalists who usually embark in such undertakings, and that it was not the province of the Government to interfere.

The House went into Committee on the Irish Land Bill, and the first point dealt with was the length of lease which is to exonerate landlords from paying damages for eviction. Mr. Synan first proposed to substitute sixty-one years for the thirty-one years of the bill; but, meeting with no support in his own quarter of the House, he did not press it. Dr. Ball then proposed the term of twenty-one years, which he maintained was a more just and suitable tenure than that proposed by the bill. The amendment was opposed on behalf of the Government by the Marquis of Hartington, who urged that, as the House had made up its mind to give the Irish tenant protection, the thing ought to be done comprehensively. Sir Roundell Palmer explained that, as the issue had been so narrowed by the concessions of the Government, he should not carry the views he had formerly expressed on the matter of leases to the length of dividing against them. On a division, the amendment was rejected by 290 to 209. Subsequently, Sir H. Selwin-Ibbetson and Mr. G. Gregory endeavoured to introduce into the clause leases for lives, and for shorter periods than thirty-one years, if sanctioned by the Court; but the Government objected to both amendments, and they were not pressed. Several other amendments were moved and withdrawn, after a brief conversation. Shortly before eleven o'clock, Sir J. Gray was moving a long amendment embodying a scheme for enabling landlords to escape from the provisions of the bill by registering their lands under "a permissive tenant right," when the Chairman was ordered to report progress.

The House then took up the adjourned debate on the appointment of Mr. Newdegate's Committee on Monastic Institutions. Mr. Newdegate, in compliance with the appeal made to him on Friday by Mr. Gladstone, explained his understanding of the scope of his inquiry—i.e., that the Committee should inquire into the mode and the conditions under which property was held by monastic institutions, and also into their discipline, with the view of testing their character. Mr.

Winterbotham opposed the inquiry, as likely to lead to no practical result but irritation and jealousy. Mr. Bromley Davenport argued in favour of the inquiry. Mr. Gladstone, deeply regretting from a practical point of view the original vote of the House, which must lead to much animosity and illwill, rose to explain the course suggested by the Government as the best to be taken under the circumstances. In the first place, he intimated that he should oppose the motion to lay on the Committee of Selection the duty of nominating the Committee. As to the inquiry itself, he agreed that the conditions under which the property of monastic institutions was held and the law relating to them were very fit subjects for inquiry. To an inquiry into the internal and personal anatomy of these establishments, which was involved in the motion, the Government could not be a party. The motion for the nomination of the Committee by the Committee of Selection was negatived without a division, and it was then suggested that the original order should be rescinded (in the words of Mr. Cogan's motion) in order to substitute an amended order for it. Mr. Newdegate refused to accept this course, insisting that the inquiry would be useless unless it comprehended "the character" of these institutions. A long controversy ensued on this point, Mr. Disraeli taking one side (in support of the original order) and Mr. Hardy the other; and ultimately the order was discharged by 270 to 160. Mr. Gladstone then moved for a Select Committee to inquire into the state of the law relating to monastic institutions and the terms on which they hold their property. On a division, after some discussion, the Committee as modified in its scope by Mr. Gladstone was carried by 348 to 57. Several notices were given of instructions to the Committee to be moved at the next stage.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

The motion for the second reading of the bill for legalising marriage with a deceased wife's sister was postponed until the 19th inst., when the Duke of Marlborough will head the opposition of the Peers to the measure, and will move that it be read the second time that day six months.

The Bankruptcy Law Amendment (Ireland) Bill was read the second time, with little observation.

A debate ensued on the second reading of the War Office Bill, in which the object of the measure was criticised by the Duke of Richmond, Lord Longford, and Lord Hardinge, while Earl Grey expressed his regret that the Government had not taken the opportunity to thoroughly reorganise the chaos of the War Department. The objections to the bill were, however, not pressed further, and it was read the second time.

The Customs (Isle of Man) Bill and the Survey of Great Britain Bill were read the third time and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

Mr. W. E. Forster stated that on the Education Bill becoming law the Government will reconsider the conditions upon which grants for education are made and certificates to masters are given. The right hon. gentleman added that of late the number of pupil-teachers in training-schools has been largely increasing.

Mr. Birley moved for a Select Committee to inquire into the operation of the commercial treaty with France. The hon. gentleman stated that his object was not to attack the treaty, but to obtain the best terms that could be procured for the admission of articles of English manufacture into France, and to bring about a revision of the present tariff. Mr. Staveley Hill moved an amendment to extend the inquiry of the Select Committee to our present treaty arrangements with foreign countries. Both the resolution and the amendment were opposed by Sir T. Bazley, who stated that at the present moment the British workman was better paid than the workman of any other country. Mr. Lefevre asserted that during the last three years, with the exception of the ribbon trade at Coventry, no complaint had been made to the Board of Trade that any branch of British industry had suffered in consequence of competition with French manufactures; and he proceeded to argue that the treaty with France had been productive of important and valuable results to this country. Mr. S. Cave expressed himself in favour of an inquiry, but deprecated the idea of a return to the policy of protection. Considerable discussion followed. The Chancellor of the Exchequer replied on the part of the Government, and contended that the question raised really amounted to a proposal for the reintroduction of protection. Mr. Staveley Hill withdrew his amendment; and, upon a division, the motion of Mr. Birley was rejected by 138 to 50.

The order for going into Committee on the Party Processions (Ireland) Bill was withdrawn, Mr. C. Fortescue stating that a Government measure on the subject had been prepared.

Leave was given to Mr. Gourley to bring in a bill to consolidate and amend the laws relating to benefit building societies.

On the motion of Mr. Gladstone, the Select Committee on Corrupt Practices was nominated, the members being Sir G. Grey, Mr. Disraeli, Sir R. Palmer, Mr. R. Gurney, and Mr. Bouverie.

The next subject brought under notice was the adjourned debate on the motion of Mr. Hughes for an address to the Crown to order that in the five statutes for determining and establishing the constitution of the new governing bodies of Shrewsbury, Winchester, Harrow, Charterhouse, and Rugby, the words requiring membership of the Church of England as a qualification for the governing body should be omitted. After some discussion the debate was again adjourned.

The Oyster and Mussel Fishery and the Attorneys' and Solicitors' Remuneration Bills were passed through Committee.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

The first and chief business was the Women's Disabilities Bill, the object of which is to confer upon duly qualified single women and widows the privileges of the franchise in both counties and boroughs. The second reading of the bill was moved by Mr. Jacob Bright, who contended that the measure was a simple act of justice which a household suffrage Parliament ought not to withhold. The motion was seconded by Colonel Sykes, and supported by Sir G. Jenkinson, Mr. Muntz, and Dr. Lyon Playfair. Mr. Scourfield argued that the majority of the women of England would regard the privilege asked for as a most unwelcome and injurious gift, and moved the previous question. Mr. W. Fowler desired to know where the movement was to stop, and suggested that if women were to be admitted to vote they must also be admitted to seats in Parliament. Sir C. W. Dilke was of opinion that this was a question for the constituencies, and that they would not be very likely, under existing circumstances, to elect female representatives. Mr. Beresford Hope and Sir Herbert Croft opposed the bill. The Home Secretary thought the question required serious and mature consideration, and that it would be better to delay its consideration for the present. Upon a division the previous question was lost by a majority of 33, and the bill was read the second time.

The Public Prosecutors Bill was, after a short discussion, read the second time, on the understanding that it is to be referred to a Select Committee.

The bill of Mr. Wheelhouse, for providing education for blind and deaf and dumb children, was next discussed until the hour for adjourning debated business had arrived.

The Felony Bill was passed through Committee, as was the Mortgage Debenture Act (1865) Amendment Bill of Mr. West. The Oyster and Mussel Fisheries Supplemental (No. 2) Bill was read the third time and passed.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

In reply to Lord Lyveden, Lord Granville made an explanation with regard to the Red River expedition, which he said would, according to a telegram he had received from Sir John Young this afternoon, be one of peace. The Government had insisted upon conditions with regard to this expedition, and the Canadian Government had not only agreed to them, but had even gone beyond them in their offers. The Government had assented to the Imperial troops being employed in the expedition, two thirds of the cost being paid by the Dominion. Everything would be done to promote that amicable settlement which he hoped would be arrived at.

Earl De Grey moved the second reading of the Medical Act (1878) Amendment Bill, the object of which is to assimilate the regulations of the several bodies which at present conduct examinations with a view to admit gentlemen to the medical profession. The Marquis of Clanricarde presented a petition from the College of Physicians in Ireland against it, and moved that the second reading be postponed until Tuesday, May 17. After considerable discussion the bill was read the second time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

THE IRISH LAND BILL.

The Committee resumed the consideration of clause 3.

Sir J. Gray moved an amendment forbidding that the owner of an estate might, by registering it in the Landed Estates Court in a prescribed form, relieve it from the operation of the Act, and so bring it under the provisions of the "Permissive Parliamentary Tenure Right," subject to these rules, that the rent shall be subject to mutual agreement; that, failing mutual agreement as to rent, either party may apply to the Court to arbitrate between them at periods of fourteen years, that the tenant may sell or assign his interest as a whole, but not sublet without the consent of the landlord or the sanction of the Court, subject to the right of pre-emption on the part of the landlord; and that the landlord cannot disturb, except for non-payment of rent, subletting, or wilful waste. Mr. Gladstone thought the amendments ought to be deferred to a later stage of the bill. Mr. C. Fortescue said the amendments were not connected with the present clause. Sir J. Gray hoped, as the amendments were sanctioned by the tenant farmers of Ireland, they would be considered hereafter. The amendments were withdrawn.

Dr. Ball moved to insert that the Court, in awarding compensation, should have regard to the terms and conditions under which the tenant originally obtained possession of the holding, and to any special circumstances connected therewith. The Solicitor-General for Ireland said the addition was unnecessary, and, after some more discussion, it was withdrawn. Mr. D. Fortescue having declined to press his amendment, Lord Eliocho would not delay the progress of the bill further than to say that all that Government had advanced in favour of the clause had strengthened his first view that it was unjust in principle, and for the first time introduced into legislation the principle of confiscation without compensation. He should take an opportunity, at a future stage, of moving an amendment which would tend to put the principle of compensation on a clearer and sounder basis.

Clause 3, as amended, was agreed to amid cheers.

The remainder of the night was occupied with the consideration of the other clauses.

WEEKLY RETURN OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

The Registrar-General gives the following return of births and deaths in London and in nineteen other large towns of the United Kingdom during the week ending Saturday, April 30:—

In London the births of 2268 children (1173 boys and 1095 girls) were registered last week. The deaths registered in the same time were 1394. During the corresponding weeks of ten previous years the registered births averaged 2077, and the deaths 1334 per week; after making due allowance for increase of population, the average for the past week is estimated at 2285 births and 1467 deaths; the registered births, therefore, were 17, and the deaths 73, below the estimated average. Zymotic diseases caused 280 deaths, including 3 from smallpox, 32 from measles, 68 from scarlet fever, 6 from diphtheria, 14 from croup, 61 from whooping-cough, 13 from typhus, 15 from enteric (or typhoid) fever, 10 from simple continued fever, 1 from relapsing fever, 6 from erysipelas, and 13 from diarrhoea. Fifty-one deaths resulted from violence. Of these 43 were accidental—including 21 fractures, 5 burns, 5 by drowning, and 5 infants and 2 adults by suffocation. A female pauper, aged thirty years, died, on April 26, at St. Pancras Workhouse, from "ulceration of the stomach from swallowing three sovereigns and a half-sovereign." Two fatal street accidents were returned last week.

During the week 5330 births and 3281 deaths were registered in London and nineteen other large towns of the United Kingdom, and the aggregate mortality of the week was in the ratio of 24 deaths annually to every 1000 of the present estimated population. The rate for the preceding week was 25 per 1000. The annual rates of mortality last week in the seventeen English cities and towns stated in the order of their topographical arrangement, were as follow:—London, 23 per 1000; Portsmouth, 22; Norwich, 29; Bristol, 27; Wolverhampton, 28; Birmingham, 19; Leicester, 17; Nottingham, 23; Liverpool, 24; Manchester, 26; Salford, 21; Bradford, 31; Leeds, 25; Sheffield, 24; Hull, 19; Sunderland, 17; and Newcastle-on-Tyne, 27. The aggregate mortality of these towns is 1.7 per 1000 below that of the previous week, but the deaths from the seven principal zymotic diseases were equal in number for both weeks. In Edinburgh the deaths registered last week were at the annual rate of 24 per 1000 persons living; in Glasgow, 29 per 1000; and in Dublin, 29.

In Paris the deaths registered during the week ending last Saturday showed an annual rate of 35 per 1000 persons living. Smallpox caused 166 deaths, as compared with 132, 102, 118, and 103 in the four preceding weeks. In Berlin the deaths recorded during the seven days ending the 28th ult. gave an annual rate of 29 per 1000, and in Vienna during the week ending the 23rd ult. a rate of 40 per 1000. In the city of Bombay the deaths registered during the week ending April 5 were 345, and the mortality was at the annual rate of 22 per 1000; in the corresponding week of five previous years the annual mortality was 30 per 1000.

It has been agreed by the Jockey Club to grant a committee of inquiry into the abuses of the turf, but the functions of the committee are not to extend to betting.

MR. DISRAELI'S NEW STORY.

Lothair. By the Right Hon. Benjamin Disraeli. In three volumes. Longmans, Green, and Co.

After many years' abstinence from the occupation of novel-writing, by which he first won public notice, Mr. Disraeli has once more exerted his fertile fancy in constructing a new fabric of pictures of social life and sketches of individual character. This tale of "Lothair" will be found quite as entertaining as his cleverest literary works of twenty or thirty years ago. So far as concerns its style and spirit, it might have been composed when its author produced "Coningsby" and "Tancred." But its subject-matter has a large admixture of some notorious events in the most recent history of England and of Europe.

Among the readers who will enjoy and admire its glittering display of wit, bold and vivacious as ever, there may be a difference of opinion with regard to the propriety of an elderly statesman treating in this fashion the gravest political and ecclesiastical affairs during his own late Administration. The Fenian conspiracy, the half-stifled, half-exploded revolutionary movement on the Continent in 1867, the agitation of Italy and France on the Roman question, the intimate councils of Napoleon III., the plots of Mazzini, the ill-advised invasion of the Papal State by Garibaldi, the renewed French intervention, the reaction in favour of Pius IX., and the elaborate preparations to get up a revival of Roman Catholic Church influence on the eve of the Ecumenical Council—these topics are serious realities of the day that saw Mr. Disraeli Prime Minister of Great Britain. Is it right that Mr. Disraeli, before those important agencies and transactions have ceased to be in operation, and while their result, still unknown in the immediate future, must be a cause of anxiety to every friend of the general peace and of civil and religious freedom, should turn them to account as mere materials of a romance? We cannot but think he would have chosen with more discretion and better taste in selecting a period somewhat more remote, 1848, for instance, or 1831, for the historical background of his amusing story.

The main argument of the story itself may appear to not a few of his countrymen liable to a similar objection. Whatever be our diversities of religious creed and sentiment in this nation, we must all consider that an organised intrigue, between the most dignified members of the Roman hierarchy among us and a family of the most respected British aristocracy, by fraud or force to entrap a wealthy young English nobleman into a reluctant conversion, is no trifling supposition. Mr. Disraeli has, within the last three or four years, the time he has fixed for the date of this narrative, held a high position, in which he may be presumed to have watched over the integrity of our social institutions, and to have kept an eye upon the insidious manoeuvres of the enemy. He ought to know what sort of persons would be the chief representatives of the Papacy here in London; and to judge whether a Cardinal Archbishop, educated for the ministry of the Anglican Church at Oxford, and the wife and niece of a peer residing in St. James's-square, are likely to concoct a villainous scheme of impudent falsehoods and blasphemous impostures for the purpose described. There can be no doubt that many thousands of ignorant people will believe in the possibility of such a transaction in the autumn of 1867, simply on the faith of the then Prime Minister's superior acquaintance with the actual state of the world. They will, of course, understand that Mr. Disraeli's work is a fiction; but they will assume it to be a correct general representation of ordinary facts. A novel dealing with the names of real persons, and professing to depict life as it is among ourselves, when the author is known to be a man of vast experience, with extraordinary opportunities of learning the truth, seems to be an indirect testimony to the existence of those elements in modern society, which he describes as now working. Mr. Disraeli is scarcely free to lend his great authority to monstrously distorted and exaggerated views of the average characters of the British nobility and the Romish clergy, or even of foreign diplomatists and foreign revolutionists; because whatever qualities he bestows on his imaginary types of those classes will be attributed to his knowledge of their real conduct and disposition. If he wrote anonymously, or if he were still a private man, having only the same intercourse with his contemporaries that any other gentleman might have, and only the same means of information, we might accept from him this romance as a clever work of art, designed for the gratification of the fancy, like some of his earlier stories. But, as the matter stands, we fear it must be condemned as an injurious libel, calculated to wound the feelings and damage the reputation of many people who are sincerely attached to their own religious or political principles, and not at all calculated to uphold the credit of the English aristocracy. It is difficult to say which class, or Church, or party, has been the worst treated by this eminent novelist.

We readily acquit him of any intention to draw caricature portraits of individuals, because the figures he has drawn are not portraits. They borrow one or two features from the real personages of our time; a certain Duke, a certain ecclesiastical dignitary, and others, whom everybody can point out: but there is no attempt to exhibit a complete resemblance. In like manner we find minute descriptions of particular houses in town and country, which are assigned, however, to inhabitants very different from the living families known to dwell in the places here described. Several incidents of the plot, besides its main topic of the sudden reported conversion of an immensely rich Marquis, at the moment he comes of age, after a long minority passed in seclusion, are obviously suggested by things which have recently happened. But all these various materials of the fiction, undeniably taken from reality, are so differently combined with each other, and the mutual action of the characters is conceived with so much independence of fact and probability, that nobody can mistake it for a narrative of what has actually taken place. Least of all can it be mistaken for a dressed-up and highly-coloured statement of the case of the young Marquis to whom allusion has been made. An uninformed reader of the first volume might be led to think so, but not in reading the second and third.

We do not wish to spoil the pleasure of those who love stories by prematurely exposing the plot of "Lothair." It will be sufficient for our object to indicate the character and position of that youthful English nobleman who must be conventionally termed the hero. He is set before the young men of the period as a warning example of the perils of sentimental flirtation with opposite religions or systems of moral philosophy, where the representative of each faith or doctrine is a fascinating woman. "Nōsse omnia hæc salus est adolescentulis," says the motto of the book; and we doubt not that an orphan Marquis at twenty-one, launched in society with a rent-roll of £150,000 a year, if he be as soft a mental weakling as Lothair, in spite of his Scotch education, needs to be put on his guard. Insinuating priests and artful ladies, prompted by Jesuit direction, may angle for such a golden gudgeon with their finest threads of seducing flattery, and with artifices to excite a romantic enthusiasm for the profit of Romish institutions. On the other hand, there

are instances to show that a chivalrous disposition, impatient of the formalities of aristocratic rank, averse to the business-like duties of a modern landed proprietor, and revolted by the petty selfishness of fashionable life, may plunge into a fit of sympathy with the wildest dreams of cosmopolitan liberty and fraternity, or the most audacious defiance of the international police. Not a few brave young Britons, who were born to high titles and large estates, have bolted from their Conservative friends to join the bands of insurrection and rebellion in foreign realms, and have sown their wild oats on a guerrilla battle-field. It may be very foolish and wrong; so may the rash dedication of a huge sum of money to the needless building of an alien cathedral be a silly waste of intrusted wealth; but either of those pursuits is better than to lose one's health of soul and body in vicious excesses, or to throw away one's fortune in gambling on the turf. The Marquis Lothair may act like a fool in more ways than one, but he is not the worst fool of quality in our time. He is unstable as water, credulous and fickle, and frail in his moral cowardice; but he is pure of base passions and sordid desires, candid and modest, filled with lofty and generous aspirations.

These are cherished by the influence of Mrs. Campian, or Theodora, a married woman of thirty-five, the Italian wife of an American gentleman, whom Lothair accidentally meets. She is, naturally enough, supposed to be a devoted partisan of Garibaldi, and an intimate counsellor of the patriotic and republican movements in 1848, both in Italy and in Paris, as well as of the secret revolutionary societies which have survived that period. Her divine beauty, her transcendent genius and character, which are not very distinctly shown, but are declared by Mr. Disraeli and Lothair in superlative terms of praise, soon counteract the fatal spell of the Popish intrigue. In spite of the angelic virtues of Miss Arundel, whom he has worshipped for her face as a saint—in spite of the assiduous courtesy of Monsignor Catesby, the flattering eloquence of Lady St. Jerome, the diplomatic subtlety of Cardinal Grandison, and the learned sophistry of Father Coleman—this ardent youth silently gives them the slip, and goes to fight against the Sovereign Pontiff at Mentana. The most amazing part of the whole story is the account of their devices, after he was brought to Rome wounded and senseless, to prevail upon him, in his weakened condition, to submit his mind to the yoke of their Church; and even to persuade him that he was the victim of a delirious hallucination, and that he had been fighting on the Pope's side instead of Garibaldi's! This magnificently farcical idea, as developed in the Cardinal's talk with his convalescent pupil, is the grandest joke that Mr. Disraeli ever produced. We find it irresistibly laughable, and worth all the rest of the book. As for the divine Theodora, her final apparition as a ghost in the moonshine of the midnight Coliseum is not more unsubstantial than her presence in the Garibaldian camp of the Apennines, or in her husband's villa at Putney. She may or may not have been that mysterious "Marianne"—not to be confounded with "La Madre Natura"—who is, or was, invoked by the Parisian conspirators of armed Democracy, as their Pythoness, or their tutelary goddess. We knew that Mr. Disraeli had somewhere picked up, as Burke picked up eighty years ago, a set of fantastic notions concerning the freemasonry of the Continental secret societies. He has been accustomed to ventilate these notions in his occasional Parliamentary speeches on the affairs of Italy. We believe, however, that they are of a mythical nature; and that Lord Palmerston, Lord Russell, and Mr. Gladstone, who were never frightened by such visions, have understood the real condition of Italy much better than Mr. Disraeli. The author of "The Revolutionary Epic" has been haunted all his life by the fancied vengeance of the Carbonari, for turning his back upon them in 1831, or thereabouts. He has now made amends to the spirit of their faction by giving it an important place in "Lothair." Some other parts of this work are mere reproductions of the characters in his former tales. The conversations upon religion, ethnology, and cosmogony are what we seem to have heard before. They are not half so pleasant as Mr. Pinto's good-humoured banter, or the flights of pointed epigram, evasive remark, and brisk repartee that fly across the Duke's breakfast-room at Brentham. But it is a satisfaction to find that the ineffable Syrian sage, who has sounded the depths of all spiritual mysteries, and measured the length and breadth of all science and history, is again to the fore. Mr. Phœbus may rave as he likes about the Aryan race. Let him go to paint the "Mongolians of Russia!" Mankind is saved by the Semitic principle, and we rejoice in its prosperous matrimonial establishment at Muriel Towers.

The State apartments of Windsor Castle are closed until further orders.

The Lord Lieutenant of Ireland laid the foundation-stone of a sailors' home at Kingstown on Tuesday.

The Midland Counties Fine-Arts and Industrial Exhibition was opened at Derby, on Thursday, by the Duke of Devonshire.

Mr. Basil Cane has succeeded Mr. Farnall as Poor-Law Inspector in the Yorkshire district.

Mr. Foley's statue of the late Earl of Carlisle was unveiled by Earl Spencer, in Phoenix Park, Dublin, on Monday.

A cotton factory near Bolton, in which 40,000 spindles were at work, was burnt to the ground on Monday.

The *Liverpool Courier* announces that £500 has been given by Lord Sefton to the fund for the restoration and enlargement of the Southern Hospital in that city.

The Marquis of Kildare, eldest son of the Duke of Leinster, is gazetted a Baron of the United Kingdom, by the title of Baron Kildare, of Kildare.

The "special" provisions of the Irish Peace Preservation Act have been applied to the counties and parts of counties already proclaimed under its ordinary provisions.

A letter from Mr. Newman Hall was read to his congregation at Surrey Chapel on Sunday. It was dated from Athens, and reports Mr. Hall's restoration to health. He had preached to an assembly of British residents and Greeks on Mars-hill, and proposes to resume his duties at home on the 15th inst.

The Post-Office Savings Banks received last year £5,787,218 deposits; the repayments during the same period amounted to £4,227,056, and the balance due at the close of the year to all depositors was £13,524,309. The charge for expenses during the year was £62,000.

Mr. W. S. Ralston, of the British Museum Library, whose translations of Kriloff's "Fables" and other specimens of Russian literature have gained much favourable notice, made his first appearance as a public lecturer, on Wednesday, at St. George's Hall. His subject was "Russian Folk-Lore;" mythological tales, such as "The Witch and the Sun's Sister;" historical tales, stories about animals, stories of peasant life, ghost stories, and serious or comic legends—which he related with humour and vivacity, and explained or commented on their meaning. There was a crowded and fashionable audience.



SKETCHES FROM IRELAND: THE PIG FAIR AT TRIM, COUNTY MEATH.

Our Special Correspondent writes as follows:—Trim pig fair is held in the outskirts of the town, at the foot of the mound whereon the county of Meath has raised its "grateful contribution to the illustrious Duke of Wellington," sometimes said to have been born at Dangan, in the neighbourhood. His monument is a tall granite column, surmounted by a statue of the hero in full regimentals. From the height of his commanding position the great Duke, waving his Field Marshal's baton, looks down benignantly on the grunting, squeaking, and swinish multitude beneath, over every member of which Pat, Mike, Dan, Larry, and Tim are driving the hardest of bargains. "Will ye take it?" demands Mike; "will ye take it now? give me yer hand," which having obtained possession of, he forthwith begins to thump away at with his own, repeating his thump and question at the same time. Meeting always with a negative response, Mike at length turns on his heel, exclaiming in a tone of intense disgust, "Och! may I niver breathe agin if I giv yer another ha'penny." But, unfortunately, he cannot resist turning round and casting a wistful look upon the coveted pig which invariably has the effect of bringing him back again. By this time the bystanders, all more or less excited, will begin to interfere: "Ye'll never git a ha'penny more, and I'll have to drive yer pig home again." "Divide the pound wid him, and sell yer pig!" "Let him have the pig!" "Why don't yer sell him the pig?" "Take his money and give him the pig!"

Such is the advice given to Tim, who has a pig to dispose of; and, on the other hand, a certain amount of persuasion is brought to bear upon Mike, who desires to buy one:—"Arrah! divide the ten shillings wid him!" "Give him another half-crown." "Give him his £6," &c. Finally, on Tim consenting to return Mike five shillings out of the £6, a bargain is struck, hands are clasped, the money is paid and duly spat on, certain hieroglyphics are scored on the pig's back in red chalk, and the transaction is brought to a satisfactory conclusion.

The proverbial humours of an Irish fair, such as we read of them in works of fiction, seem at the present time to have passed utterly away. You may be in the heart of one of these assemblages from early morning till wellnigh dusk and not hear a laugh nor see even so much as a smile on the countenance of a single person present. Save, too, from the lips of

SKETCHES FROM IRELAND.



MIKE BRANNAN'S CABIN IN THE HUNDRED ACRES BOG.

itinerant ballad-singers, during an entire month that I have been in Ireland, I have not heard so much as a snatch of song. The Irish peasantry, eaten up, as they evidently are, with a thorough hatred of England and everything English, while guardedly polite to the "Saxon" stranger who is brought into contact with them, appear to have become the most melancholy of mortals. And yet, with all this, even in their driest dealings there is a touch of humour that is perfectly irresistible, although they themselves go through it with the staidest gravity. This is particularly apparent at an Irish pig fair, where the flower of the land in the finest possible condition are periodically gathered together. On these occasions, shortly after sunrise, along all the roads leading into the town, a procession of pigs is to be seen—the full-grown and moderately strong animals being skilfully conducted by means of stout wisps of straw tied to one of their hind legs, while the more delicate porcine bantlings are brought in in donkey-carts, crammed generally almost as closely together as sardines in a box. The pig, which promenades steadily enough along the open highway, is apt to turn aside to the right hand and to the left directly he finds himself in the

principal street of a town; consequently a continual struggle is being maintained between pig and driver at almost every open shop-door and gateway.

A part of the county of Roscommon has just been specially proclaimed under the Peace Preservation Act, although the county generally has the reputation of being in a peaceful state, and it is quite certain that no outrages—beyond, perhaps, a few threatening notices, the majority of which have no kind of significance—have been reported from there for several weeks past. Towards the end of March a party of constabulary out at night in the neighbourhood of Keltullagh, one of the districts just proclaimed, for the purpose of arresting on a warrant a woman named Homan, who had illegally entered into possession of some land belonging to one James Vesey, saw in the dim light a large party of men in the centre of a bog near the cabin of Michael Brannan. On directing their steps towards them the men scampered off in all directions, and by the time the police arrived at the cabin the majority had made their escape, and of those that remained only one, a man named Morin, was captured. On entering Brannan's cabin the police learnt from him and his wife that shortly before, while they were in bed and asleep, the

door had been burst in by a considerable number of men, three or four of whom entered the cabin, and in the dark, with the view that they might not be recognised, proceeded to force Brannan to take an oath "to be true to the country, and to pay no higher rent for his holding than the poor-law valuation of it."

The police conveyed their prisoner to gaol, and he, no doubt feeling his fate to be imminent, having been taken, as it were, almost in the very act, intimated his desire to give information to the authorities to enable the remainder of the gang to be secured. Acting on the statements made by him, the authorities drew in a considerable body of police an evening or two afterwards from the outlying districts to the head-quarters at Castlereagh, and at midnight a strong party, accompanied by a stipendiary magistrate, sallied forth on four cars to scour the district known as the Hundred Acres, in the neighbourhood of Keltullagh, on the borders of the county of Mayo. They had to drive something like a dozen miles through the village of Ballinlough, which takes its name from the adjacent lake, and then across a remarkably wild and hilly country, with stone walls bounding the



WOMEN AT FIELD-WORK IN ROSCOMMON

road on each side and dividing the patches of stoney pasture, with not so much as a tree in sight for miles, and no other habitations save a few miserable cabins-crouching, as it were, in the remoter depths of the valleys. At last a large plantation is reached, with a long avenue of trees conducting to the extensive ruins of some ancient mansion which rise up distinctly in the clear moonlight. After a time the road winds sharply round to the right and crosses an extensive black bog, with low hills rising gradually on the one hand, and a range of craggy mountains bounding it on the other. The cars halt, the police are told off into separate parties and disperse in different directions across the bog. The inmates of one cabin after another are aroused from their sleep, and, if any delay occurs in the opening of the doors, these are burst in in the search after the individuals of whom the constables are in quest. Only three of those "wanted" by the police are discovered, however; the remainder, fearing that they might be arrested, had already fled the district. The three in question, with one or two women, supposed to have a guilty knowledge of the conspiracy, which had been gradually extending, it appears, all over the south-western portion of the county, were conveyed to the police barracks. Subsequently, however, the women were released, and the men, after undergoing an examination before the magistrates, were committed to Roscommon gaol.

That a considerable number of men were mixed up in the conspiracy, which had been imported into Roscommon from the adjacent county of Mayo, is evidenced by the fact that upwards of one hundred have fled this particular neighbourhood, leaving their wives and families behind them to tend their cows and their pigs, to dig and manure their plots, and plant—what is still the staple food of the Irish peasantry—the potato. We found the women well formed, muscular, if not particularly handsome, specimens of the fair sex; working away with a thorough will in their scarlet petticoats, and their white or check shawls fastened over their heads, their brawny legs for the most part completely bare, with not so much as a sandal on the foot with which they pressed the spade into the hard ground, though one or two had a sort of rude moccasins called "tracheens" wound round the lower part of the leg. On entering into conversation with them we found the Gaelic to be their ordinary language, though some of them spoke English well enough. They gave one to understand that their fathers and husbands had been guilty of nothing at all, but had been driven away by the police, who were always interfering, they said, with quiet people, who did no harm to anyone; for which one and all maintained that they ought to be sent out of the country.

LAW AND POLICE.

Judgment was given, yesterday week, by the Law Lords in an appeal against a decision of the Court of Session respecting a deed of entail. The point in dispute was whether the deed in question, dated 1693, governing certain lands held by the Duke of Hamilton, was ineffectual, and whether the Duke had power to dispose of the lands. In the Court of Session it was unanimously held that the deed was no longer binding on his Grace, and this judgment has been with similar unanimity affirmed by the Court of Appeal.

Vice-Chancellor Malins has granted an order for the winding up of the Great Oceanic Telegraph Company.

Vice-Chancellor James gave his decision, yesterday week, in the case of "Wood v. Chart," in which the right to perform the drama of "Frou-Frou" is involved. The Vice-Chancellor held that, in order to bring the agreement made between the plaintiff (Mr. Wood) and the authors of the play under the meaning of the Act of Parliament, it was necessary that a translation should have been published within three months of the registration of the original. This had not been done, as Mr. Sutherland Edwards's version was more of an adaptation than a translation. Under these circumstances, the suit of Mr. Wood was dismissed.

Lord Courtenay, the late member for East Devon, has been adjudicated a bankrupt. The claim of the petitioning creditor arises upon three bills of exchange of £500 each, and the act of bankruptcy is the non-payment of the amount of a debtor's summons issued in accordance with the provisions of the new law.

A member of the Society of Friends was summoned at the Mansion House, yesterday week, for non-payment of tithes. The defendant complained that £10 worth of his property had recently been seized on a £4 distress warrant for tithes. He also stated that he could obtain no account from the brokers or auctioneers who had taken possession of his property. The Lord Mayor made the usual order against the defendant, but said he should have the statement thoroughly investigated.

A velocipedist has been charged at Worship-street with having obstructed a thoroughfare. The magistrate held that a bicycle was a carriage, and a person obstructing a crossing with any description of vehicle was liable to a penalty. He ordered the defendant to pay a small fine and costs.

William Heal, of Durston, Somerset, was charged, at Bow-street, last Saturday, with having committed perjury, on April 19, 1866, before a Select Committee of the House of Commons appointed to investigate a petition

against the election of Mr. Westropp for Bridgwater. Heal then stated that he had in no way accepted or offered bribes in the interest of Mr. Westropp in 1865, and that it was, in fact, the first time that he had not been guilty of bribery at the Bridgwater elections. Last autumn, when he was examined before the Bridgwater Bribery Commissioners, Heal declared that all he had stated before the House of Commons Committee in 1866 was false, and that he had distributed a considerable sum of money in bribes at the election in 1865. In consequence of this, the Attorney-General has instituted the present prosecution. The prisoner was remanded.

Two "gentlemen," aged twenty-two and twenty-three respectively, were charged at Bow-street, yesterday week, with frequenting the Strand Theatre dressed in female attire. A third young gentleman was charged for being in the company of the other defendants. At the lodgings of two of the defendants was found a quantity of skirts, chignons, hats, and other articles usually worn by women; and evidence was brought to show that the accused often appeared at public places in female costume. The magistrate accepted bail for the third defendant, who said he really thought that he was with females. The others were remanded.

Mr. Charles Buxton, M.P., had a narrow escape of his life yesterday week. The hon. gentleman had given his private secretary, Arthur White, notice to leave his service, when the latter levelled a revolver at Mr. Buxton, and fired. Fortunately the shot missed. White made his escape from the house, and drove off in a hansom cab. On Monday he was arrested at the Maison Dorée, Paris.

At the sitting of the Central Criminal Court, on Tuesday, the defendant Weston, charged with having concealed a portion of his estate with intent to defraud his creditors, was acquitted. Two members of the notorious "long firm," named Aaron and Lazarus, were convicted of conspiracy, and sentenced, respectively, to seven years' penal servitude and twelve months' imprisonment, with hard labour.

Philip Burch, nearly eighty years of age, was charged, yesterday week, before the Barn-staple borough magistrates with assaulting Mary Stephens. It appears that on the Thursday the defendant met the complainant and scratched her arm with a needle, causing it to bleed. On being questioned by her as to his conduct he replied, "You have had power over me long enough, and now I will be revenged." The old man, in answer to the charge, told the Bench that he had been persuaded by more than one hundred persons that if he could "fetch" the blood of the woman he should be able to overcome her. He went on to state that he had suffered affliction through Mary Stephens for the last five years, and had four complaints upon him at once; he had also lost fourteen canaries and about fifty goldfinches. He was fined 2s. 6d. and costs, with the alternative of seven days' imprisonment.

Sir William Mansfield, the late Commander-in-Chief of the Army in India, has arrived in London.

The eldest son of the late Don Henri de Bourbon has published a letter in which he rejects with scorn the sum of money fixed by the Council of War as the indemnity to be paid by the Duke de Montpensier. He states that he is willing to "wait until some day we may settle our accounts better with less money."

The claim to the Borthwick peerage occupied the attention of the Committee of Privileges of the House of Lords for the last time on Tuesday. Their Lordships held the claim of Mr. Cunningham Borthwick to have been established. The claim to the Earldom of Mar was also before the Committee, and its further consideration was adjourned sine die.

The photographic journals announce the sudden death, in his seventy-second year, of a distinguished photographer, M. Niepce de St. Victor, one of the most skilful and indefatigable of experimentalists, and the practical originator of photography on glass plates. His name will, however, be associated chiefly with the process of photo-engraving.

The Treasury receipts and payments from April 1 to 30 have been published. The month's revenue amounted to £5,041,765, or nearly £900,000 less than in the corresponding period of last year. The expenditure had been £7,445,037, and this was more than £1,800,000 under the sum issued from the Exchequer in April, 1869. The balance in the Bank of England on Saturday last was £5,618,984.

The Bombay papers state that a strange incident has taken place in the Indian Ocean. The steamer Rocket, en route for China, via the Suez Canal, had left Aden, and was proceeding towards Galle. Two small native craft, called "dhows," approached her, and the Captain, thinking they were pirates, fired upon and killed several of the crew. The "dhows," however, were peaceful craft laden with merchandise, and, being short of water, had merely approached the Rocket to ask for some. Upon arriving at Muscat, whither they were bound, an account of the occurrence was laid before the British Consul.

The Queensland Emigration agency has is-

sued a handbook pointing out the advantages which Queensland offers as a field for emigrants. To the "squatter," or sheep-farmer, it is shown there are great inducements in the low price of stock and the great facilities afforded for the acquisition of leasehold land. Out of an estimated area of 433,000,000 acres, 173,000,000 only have been leased. To the farmer who desires to combine pastoral with agricultural pursuits, there is now given in Queensland a wider scope than in any other Australian colony. To the industrious labourer whose ambition is limited to the acquisition of a comparatively small property, there is the homestead selection, by which he and his family may obtain a freehold and substantial footing in a country which must advance.

MONETARY AND COMMERCIAL TRANSACTIONS.

(From our City Correspondent.)

The Stock-Exchange Markets have been characterised by a fair amount of animation during the week, and the tendency of prices, so far as Foreign Bonds and English Government Securities are concerned, has been favourable. Consols, after being temporarily depressed in consequence of the monthly settlement, have been firm, at 93½ to 94 for Delivery, and 94½ to 94½ for June; Reduced and New Three per Cents, 92½ to 92½; Bank Stock, 234 to 236; and Exchequer Bills, par to 5s. prem. India Stock, 113½ to 114; and India Bonds, 20s. to 25s. prem.

Colonial Government Securities have been purchased to a moderate extent, at steady prices. Canada 1877-84, 107 to 108; Ditto Inscribed Stock, 97 to 99; Dominion, 1903, 96½ to 97½; Cape, 1873, 104 to 106; New South Wales, 1871 to 1876, 102 to 103; New Zealand, 109, 110, to 112; Ditto Consolidated, 96½ to 97½; and Victoria, 1891, 115 to 116.

The market for English Railway Stocks has been rather unsettled. Caledonian, on the announcement that the directors had resolved to issue £1,000,000 of new ordinary Stock, at 70, payable by instalments, as well as £333,000 Debenture Stock, experienced a fall of 1½; but the decline has since been more than recovered. Metropolitan has been very flat. As regards other Stocks, the tendency has been unfavourable, but no important movement has been noticed. Indian Stocks have been quiet and unaltered. Foreign Shares have been dull, and Lombards have fallen £1, in consequence of the report being considered far from satisfactory. Caledonian, 73½ to 74; Great Eastern, 42½ to 43½; Great Northern, 120½ to 121½; Ditto, A, 127½ to 127½; Great Western, 71½ to 72½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 129 to 130; London and Brighton, 45 to 45½; London and North-Western, 126½ to 127; London and South-Western, 90 to 92; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 52 to 52½; Metropolitan, 75½ to 75½; Midland, 125½ to 125½; North-Eastern—Berwick, 134½ to 135½; Ditto, Leeds, 87 to 89; Ditto, York, 132 to 133; and South-Eastern, 77 to 77½.

British Possessions.—Bombay, Baroda, and Central India, 107½ to 108½; Cape, 60 to 65; East Indian, 114½ to 115½; Grand Trunk of Canada, 15 to 15½; Great Indian Peninsula, 110½ to 111½; Great Western of Canada, 16½ to 16½; Oude and Rohilkund, 107 to 108; Scinde, 107 to 108; Ditto, Delhi, 107 to 108.

Foreign.—Great Luxembourg, 13 to 13½; Ottoman, (Smyrna to Aidin), 6½ to 7; and South Austrian and Lombardo-Venetian, 15½ to 15½.

The market for Foreign Bonds has been characterised by a fair degree of firmness. Egyptian, notwithstanding the new loan, have continued steady; and Turkish, Spanish, Brazilian, and Italian have been higher in value. Brazilian, 1865, 89½ to 89½; Chilean, 1867, 98 to 99; Ditto, 1870, 85½ to 86½; Egyptian, 1868, 80½ to 81; Ditto Government Railway Debentures, 99 to 100; Peruvian, 1865, 86½ to 87; Russian, 1862, 84½ to 85; Ditto, Anglo-Dutch, 92½ to 93½; Spanish, 1867, 29½ to 29½; Ditto, 1869, 29 to 29½; Turkish, 1863, 72½ to 73; Ditto Five per Cents, 49 to 49½; Ditto, 1869, 62½ to 63½; and Italian, 1861, 56½ to 56½.

American Government Securities have been favourably influenced by the announcement that Secretary Boutwell will sell 4,000,000 dols. in gold, and purchase 6,000,000 dols. bonds during the current month. The 5-20, 1882, Bonds have touched 88½ to 88½; Ditto, 1885, 87½ to 88½; Ditto, 1887, 89½ to 90½; 10-40, 85½ to 86; Atlantic and Great Western Consolidated Mortgage Bonds have been done at 27 to 28; Erie Shares, 18½ to 19; and Illinois Central, 111½ to 112½.

Bank Shares have been firm, at a further improvement. Aggra, A, 10½ to 11; Alliance, 12½ to 13½; Anglo-Austrian, 13 to 15 prem.; Anglo-Egyptian, 24½ to 25½; Imperial Ottoman, 4½ to 4½ prem.; London and County, 49½ to 50½; London and Westminster, 62 to 64; London Joint-Stock, 33½ to 34½; and Union of London, 37½ to 38½. Telegraph Shares have been very dull, at a general reduction. Anglo-American 16½ to 17; Anglo-Mediterranean, 16½ to 16½; British Indian Submarine, 8½ to 8½; Falmouth, Gibraltar, and Malta, 8½ to 8½; and French Cables, 15½ to 15½.

For Miscellaneous Securities there has been a moderate demand, but prices have ruled easier in some instances. Credit Foncier of England, 24 to 24½; General Credit and Discount, 8½ to 9 prem.; General Steam Navigation, 29 to 31; Hooper's Telegraph Works, 13 to 14 dis.; India-rubber and Telegraph Works, 47 to 48; and Telegraph Construction, 33 to 35½.

The Japanese Loan, after being dealt in at 5 to 4 dis., has since recovered to 3½ to 2½ dis. The new Egyptian Loan is nominally quoted at par to ½ prem.

The Discount Market has been fairly supplied with capital. There has been a fair demand for accommodation, partly on account of payments in connection with the 4th of the month, and the quotations have ruled firm. The general rate for negotiating three-months' paper has been 3 per cent; but occasional transactions have taken place at 2½ per cent.

On the Continent capital has continued plentiful, and, with a moderate demand, the rates have been easy.

Very little bullion has come to hand during the week. There has been no export inquiry, and the movements have been altogether unimportant. Of the heavy receipts of last week a large proportion was taken by Russia on account of the last loan.

Silver has been in improved request for Holland at 60 7-16d. per ounce, and Mexican dollars have been in request for China at 59½d. per ounce.

In the rates of foreign exchange no change has taken place.

Biddings for £400,000 in bills on India have taken place at the Bank. The amounts allotted have been—to Calcutta £397,000, and to Madras £3000. The minimum price was fixed at 1s. 10½d., being a further fall of 1 per cent. Tenders at 1s. 10½d. will receive about 23 per cent, and above that price in full. These results show a further diminution in the demand for means of remittance to the East.

At a meeting of the Sovereign Life Assurance Company it was shown that 458 policies had been issued in 1869, averaging £680 each, assuring £311,250, and yielding in new premiums £8843.

The report of the Vancouver Coal-Mining and Land Company (Limited), to be presented on the 10th inst., shows an available total of £6529, and recommends a dividend at the rate of 15 per cent per annum, which will absorb £6195, and leave £334 to be carried forward.

A prospectus has appeared of the South-Eastern Baths and Washhouses Company (Limited), with a capital of £20,000, in shares of £1 each, to establish baths and washhouses on a plot of ground near New Beckham.

The return of the Bank of England shows the following results when compared with the previous week:—

An increase of circulation of ..	£711,212
An increase of public deposits of ..	565,461
A decrease of other deposits of ..	345,579
An increase of other securities of ..	1,008,969
A decrease of bullion of ..	125,421
A decrease of rest of ..	4,263
A decrease of reserve of ..	796,316

The circulation, including post bills, is now £21,303,558; public deposits amount to £8,632,666; and private deposits to £16,001,374. The securities held represent £32,198,433; and the stock of bullion is £19,818,607. The rest figures for £3,109,502.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE (Monday).—The supply of English wheat on sale here to-day was limited, and the attendance of factors was more numerous than for some time past. Trade ruled firm for all descriptions, and an advance of 1s. to 2s. per quarter was obtained on both English and foreign grain. Flour was steady, at an improvement of 1s. on country sacks and of 6d. on barrels. Grinding barley was the turn dealer, while maize was steady in value and demand. Oats changed hands to a fair extent, at 6d. to 1s. per quarter more money. Beans and peas were held at extreme currencies.

Wednesday.—There was no important feature to notice in the grain trade to-day. Wheat maintained the recent advance, but the transactions were not numerous. All spring corn was steady in value, and sales were reported to a fair extent. A quiet business was passing in flour, at late rates.

Arrivals this Week.—English and Scotch: Wheat, 430; barley, 200; malt, 200; beans, 40; peas, 40 qrs. Foreign: Wheat, 17,500; barley, 4750; oats, 23,140; beans, 226; peas, 850 qrs.; flour, 270 sacks and 6300 barrels.

Current Prices of English Grain.—Red wheat, 37s. to 44s.; white ditto, 39s. to 48s.; barley, 25s. to 40s.; malt, 48s. to 69s.; rye, 81s. to 32s.; oats, 17s. to 26s.; beans, 34s. to 44s.; peas, 31s. to 39s. per quarter; flour, 30s. to 40s. per 280 lb.

Imperial Averages of Grain.—66,339 quarters of English wheat sold last week at an average price of 42s. 7d.; 6741 qrs. of barley at 33s. 1d.; and 4400 qrs. of oats at 21s. 7d. per quarter.

Bread.—The present prices of wheaten bread in the metropolises are from 6½d. to 7d.; and of household ditto, 5½d. to 6d. per 4 lb. loaf.

Seeds.—English clover continues to come forward in small quantities, and commands full prices. Trefoil has sold at extreme rates. Good canary seed has ruled firm.

Brown mustard, 11s. to 14s.; white ditto, 12s. to 15s.; new winter tares, 7s. to 8s. per bushel; canary, 52s. to 64s. per quarter; red clover, 68s. to 82s.; coriander, 21s. to 22s. per cwt.

Tea.—A moderate business has been concluded in tea, on former easy terms for low qualities.

Sugar.—The market has ruled dull, and floating cargoes have been disposed of at some reduction. Refined goods have been in demand. Stock, 74,871 tons, against 72,716 tons in 1869.

Coffee.—Plantation coffee has met a fair inquiry, on former terms. Stock, 19,172 tons, against 12,231 tons last year.

Rice, on the spot, has been neglected; but some inquiry has prevailed for parcels afloat. Stock, 40,656 tons, against 41,728 tons last year.

Provisions.—Bacon has been dull, and lower in value. Hamburg, sizeable, 67s. to 69s., landed. For butter the demand has been inactive, and prices have had a drooping tendency: Friesland, 114s. to 118s.; Zwolle and Kampen, 102s. to 112s.; Danish and Kiel, 60s. to 124s.; Bosh, 90s. to 100s.; Leir, 86s. to 98s.; Normandy, 96s. to 126s., per cwt. Hams have been quiet; but cheese and lard have been steady in value and inquiry.

Hay and Straw.—Mr. Charles James Easton reports the supply moderate and the trade steady, at about previous rates.—Prime meadow hay, 75s. to 82s. 6d.; inferior ditto, 60s. to 70s.; rowen, 50s. to 65s.; prime clover, 110s. to 126s.; inferior ditto, 80s. to 95s.; prime second-cut clover, 109s. to 110s.; inferior ditto, 80s. to 90s.; and straw, 28s. to 28s. per load.

Spirits.—The rum market has ruled steady, but the sales have been limited in number and extent. Stock, 20,739 puns, against 23,384 puns last year. Brandy is unchanged in value.

Hops.—The market remains altogether without feature, and inferior parcels are again lower to sell.

Potatoes.—The arrivals of potatoes have been less extensive, and choice qualities have commanded full rates.

Oils.—Lined oil, on the spot, is quoted at £31 15s. to £32s. English brown rape, £43; refined, £45 to £45 10s.; foreign, £46 10s. Cotton and olive oils have been inactive.

Tallow.—Y.C., on the spot, 44s. 3d.; June, 44s. 6d.; last three months, 45s. 6d. Stock, 32,381 casks, against 34,704 casks last year.

Coals.—Newcastle, 14s. 9d. to 15s.; Sunderland, 15s. to 17s. 6d.; Hartlepool and West Hartlepool, 16s. to 17s. 6d.; Blyth, Scotch, Welsh, and York, 18s. 3d. per ton.

Metropolitan Cattle Market.—A fair amount of animation has been noticed in the cattle trade to-day. There has been a moderate supply of beasts on offer. Prime breeds have been in request, at full prices; but inferior qualities have changed hands quietly. The best Scots and crosses have realised 4s. 10s. to 5s. per 8 lb. With sheep the market has been fairly supplied. Business to a fair extent has been concluded, at full quotations, the best Downs and half-breds selling at 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d. per 8 lb. Lambs have continued dull. Calves have found buyers, at about previous quotations.

Per 8 lb. to sink the offal:—Coarse and inferior beasts, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 6d.; second quality, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 4d.; prime large oxen, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; prime Scots, &c., 4s. 10d. to 5s.; coarse and inferior sheep, 3s. to 3s. 4d.; second quality ditto, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 4d.; prime coarse-wooled sheep, 4s. 6d. to 5s. 0d.; prime Southdown ditto, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; large coarse calves, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 10d.; prime small ditto, 5s. to 5s. 8d.; large hogs, 4s. 6d. to 5s. 4d.; neat small porkers, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; lambs, 6s. 6d. to 7s.; suckling calves, 22s. to 26s.; and quarter-old store pigs, 20s. to 26s. each. Total Supply: Beasts, 1077; sheep and lambs, 12,350; calves, 577. Foreign: Beasts 408; sheep and lambs, 3570; calves, 445.

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"Mr. Urling has had the honour of submitting to her Majesty, by appointment, specimens of the 'New Point de Duchesse' and 'Monition Point Laces,' and of receiving her Majesty's orders for the same." Peter Robinson has this day bought the whole of the Stock in Trade of Mr. Urling. April 27, 1870.

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LONDON: Printed and Published at the Office, 198, Strand, in the Parish of St. Clement Danes, in the County of Middlesex, by GEORGE C. LEIGHTON, 198, Strand, aforesaid.—SATURDAY, MAY 7, 1870.

THE LATE MR. MACLISE'S HOUSE IN CHEYNE-WALK.

No part of London retains so many memorials of departed greatness as Chelsea. For centuries—from the days of Henry VIII. and before, down almost to within living memory, Chelsea was the favourite suburb of fashion, wit, pleasure, wealth, and learning, and still it teems with relics visibly associating it with the past. Modern metropolitan changes and "improvements" seem to have set in currents in every direction except towards Chelsea. For this reason it retains a quaint old-world picturesqueness not elsewhere to be found "within the radius," and on this account, probably, though deserted by fashion, it is still a favourite resort for literary men, artists, and others seeking retirement. Carlyle and Macclise had long been the most famous of a number of celebrities, whose residence in the parish seemed to preserve its classic traditions. The philosopher and historian—the "prophet" of Chelsea—is still preserved to us; but the unexpected, untimely death of the great artist leaves a void in the associations of the place which can scarcely be filled up. Many habitués will miss one tall, commanding figure, occasionally seen in daylight or dusk strolling in perfect abstraction, thinking probably of some poetic tale of chivalry, or of the grand cycle of his country's glories which he had been called upon to plan, and which he partially and so nobly represented in the Royal Gallery of the Westminster Palace. In his latest years Mr. Macclise lived in a retirement approaching complete seclusion: there can be no doubt that his sensitive nature was deeply wounded by the treatment he received at the hands of the Government, particularly in breaking off the incomplete contract for the decoration of the Royal Gallery, which he undertook by special request of the Prince Consort, and for which he prepared designs which were never paid for—treatment respecting which we have repeatedly expostulated. But, though never seen of late in the society he so much adorned in earlier years, perhaps no man had more true friends to mourn his loss, for certainly no man deserved them better. An artist so devoted to his art, heedless of gain; a gentleman so loyal, simple, humble, and withal so accomplished, and upon occasion so genially humorous, is rare indeed.

Mr. Macclise took up his residence at Chelsea to be within easy distance of Westminster Palace by river or road. As might be expected, he chose a house in "Cheyne-walk" (so named after the second Viscount Newhaven, created Lord Cheyne by William III.); the most picturesque spot



THE HOUSE OF THE LATE DANIEL MACCLISE, R.A., IN CHEYNE-WALK, CHELSEA.

in London, with its row of noble old houses of the reigns of William III. and Queen Anne; its boulevard of beeches and elms, its quays enlivened by barges and boats, its outlook over the river and Battersea Park to the Surrey hills. There is, by-the-way, a view from the walk by Mr. C. G. Lawson, one of the artist-residents, now in the Academy exhibition (998). Unfortunately, the aesthetic advantages of Cheyne-walk are counterbalanced to a grievous extent by annoyances traceable to the disgraceful neglect of the parish and police authorities. Our readers may remember that Mr. Macclise himself, though the most patient of men, was tempted into sending, about a year ago, a most piteous complaint of the local annoyances to the *Times*; in which he commenced by comparing the walk to the promenade of the Lung'Arno, and then went on to give a most droll enumeration of his sufferings from various causes, including the cocks and hens, and the wind-inflated bleaching linen of both sexes at the back. The Sunday evening preaching under the trees in front, and the psalm-singing to cheerful secular tunes the painter rather liked.

The house Mr. Macclise occupied was No. 4 in the walk. Mr. Cope, the Royal Academician, lived in it previously, and other persons of some note. Several artists of distinction still dwell along the walk, including Mr. Dante G. Rossetti, the painter and poet, leader of a section of the pre-Raphaelites—in the fine old house (No. 16) the interior of which is supposed to be described in Miss Thackeray's "Story of Elizabeth." In the house next to Mr. Macclise's (No. 5) lived for some eighty years James and "Jack" Neild, father and son, the former a warm-hearted philanthropist, who, notwithstanding, amassed a very large fortune as a silversmith; the latter one of the most rigid misers on record, who existed for a long series of years in the old house, with a half-starved female servant and a black cat. The extreme of the miser's indulgence was a fourpenny chop; if the chop came to fourpence-halfpenny, it was sent back. At his death it was found that his father's fortune, vastly augmented by his own life-long scrapings, representing a sum variously estimated at from half a million to two millions, had been bequeathed by him to her Majesty. In this house, a short time since, resided Mr. T. J. Gullick, the artist and art-critic, who, curiously enough, had written, previous to living in Cheyne-walk, the account of his great neighbour's works and the other wall-paintings at Westminster in the authorised handbook to them. We must, however, cease gossiping of Cheyne-walk, for it is a subject without an end.



STEEPLECHASE AT PUNCESTOWN RACES.
SEE PAGE 489.

IRELAND.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

WESTPORT, May 3.

In my last letter I quoted from the long catalogue of outrages enumerated by Baron Deasy in the course of his charge at the recent Castlebar Assizes, and spoke of the present peaceful condition of the county of Mayo on the authority of the sub-inspector of constabulary at Castlebar, where all outrages perpetrated throughout the county, and coming to the knowledge of the police, are duly reported. Spite, however, of this complete absence of all grades of agrarian crime, the entire county of Mayo has been included in the special proclamation under the recent Peace Preservation Act, issued from Dublin Castle a few days since, and been placed in the same category with Meath and Westmeath, where a revival of those outrages for which those counties had acquired an evil reputation has unquestionably set in. In addition to the above three counties, certain districts of Cavan, Roscommon, Longford, Sligo, and King's County have been placed under the provisions of the Act; the effect of which is that every person there resident is required to leave at the next police station every description of firearms in his possession on or before May 3; in default of doing so he renders himself liable to imprisonment for two years. Any magistrate may cause to be arrested, and any constable may arrest and bring before a magistrate, any person out at night "under suspicious circumstances;" and the magistrate, at his discretion, may commit the individual in question to gaol or admit him to bail to stand his trial at the next petty sessions. All public-houses are to be closed after sunset, under a penalty of £50 and three months' imprisonment. Strangers, too, sojourning in a specially proclaimed district may be examined respecting their usual place of abode, their means of livelihood, their motives for coming into the district in question, &c.; and, should their replies not prove satisfactory, they may be called upon to find security for good behaviour, and in default be committed to gaol.

Some ten days spent in Mayo, journeying in all directions and mixing with all conditions of people, have sufficed to convince me that the abnormal condition this county has presented up till quite recently is entirely attributable to the attempts which have been made to revive that system of wholesale eviction from which the tenant-farmers and peasantry of Mayo suffered so severely in years past. All through the centre of Ireland, in every town, every village, and by every roadside, ruined cabins are continually met with; but in Mayo you encounter whole districts that have been depopulated within the last ten years, and indeed even more recently. You may drive through entire villages of ruined cabins with hardly so much as a habitable dwelling remaining, and in the neighbourhood of Westport will have hillside after hillside pointed out to you on the estate of the Marquis of Sligo where not so much as a single head of cattle, a single sheep, is to be seen, but where, ten years since, cottages might be counted by the hundred. And even among the mountains you ever and anon come across the ruined walls of some solitary substantial farmhouse overhung by spreading trees just bursting into leaf, the land surrounding which shows traces of having been under recent cultivation, and the tenant of which has been capriciously evicted, possibly for no other reason than because his married son had been allowed to bring his wife home to live under the common roof.

Speaking of matters of quite recent occurrence in Mayo, Dr. Roughan, in his report to the Poor-Law Commissioners, observes:—"Tenant farmers who have lost the value of their labour and of substantial improvements by reason of eviction may be counted by the hundred. Many tenants in the electoral division of Strade, in the Castlebar union, who had built houses and offices, made other substantial improvements, and paid their rent regularly, were yet evicted without receiving any compensation whatever. At the Bellina Quarter Sessions of January last several decrees on ejectment were obtained, the plaintiff in which action had, for thirteen years past, been in the habit of regularly, once a year, serving notice to quit on every tenant on her estate. One of them had built a house upon his land, upon which his family had lived for generations; he had paid his rent up to Nov. 1, 1869, had made the garden, constructed trench drains through the land—in a word, had laid out a sum of £150 in improving a small nineteen-acre farm; a decree was obtained against him, and he has lost the value of his outlay. This case has acquired notoriety (while others have passed unnoticed) owing to the fact that an attempt—which happily proved unsuccessful—was made on the life of this landlady, at her residence, near Ballycastle, some short time previous to the sessions."

Dr. Roughan makes reference to merely a fraction of the above painful case, which really relates to the eviction not of a single family, but to some half dozen families at Ballybeg. Not only was Michael Moughan, the individual referred to, and his wife evicted from their farm; but their two sons, Michael and Anthony, with their wives and children, together with another old man, named James Jordan, aged upwards of seventy years, and five generations of whose family had been born on the land, Jordan's wife, son, daughter-in-law, and grandchildren, Thomas and Patrick Howard, and their aged mother, a woman entering her ninetieth year, were all turned off the property. I will, however, speak of this case more in detail presently—a case the manifest injustice of which has penetrated every farmhouse, every cabin in Mayo, and kindled a lurid flame of discontent from one end of the county to the other. Mr. Gladstone, when introducing the Irish Land Bill to the House of Commons, might well observe—"I think no small portion of the crimes we have been lamenting is to be traced to an interference with the fixed usages of the country, and with what the people believe to be their rights—interferences which in some cases were imprudent, and which in others beyond a doubt deserved a much stronger epithet." To return, however, to Dr. Roughan's report, where he speaks of evictions of previous years. He says:—

"In the southern portion of the Ballinrobe union two cases occurred in which the tenants lost altogether, through eviction, the value of their improvements. The first of these cases occurred in the year 1866; the tenant had his rent paid up to the last gale day; he had been ten years in the holding, and had expended a considerable capital in improving the land; nevertheless, without any assignable cause, a decree of ejectment was had against him, and he was put out of the farm; and, instead of receiving compensation, to my own knowledge, legal proceedings were taken against him for the half-year's rent which had accrued and became due on the gale day of this eviction. The second case occurred, on the same property, in 1868; the tenant tendered his rent up to the day, still he was evicted by a process in ejectment from a farm on which £150 had been expended in the building of a comfortable dwelling-house and offices, and on which his forefathers had

resided for centuries. Improvements either on the part of the tenant or landlord are now at a standstill."

When at Castlebar I found everyone extremely anxious to give me information respecting the evictions on the property of Miss Gardiner, at Ballybeg, alluded to above; but, following the course I had heretofore adopted under similar circumstances, I thought it preferable to drive over a distance of some five-and-thirty English miles, and gather my information on the spot. I went by public car as far as Ballina, crossing on our route the granite ridge which develops itself between Ballina and Sligo into what are known as the Ox mountains, and having the great Nephin mountain keeping us company on our left hand throughout the journey. Just about half way to Ballina we strike Lough Conn, with a little island some short distance from the shore, where "potheen" whisky is illicitly distilled almost under the very eyes of the police, installed in neighbouring barracks in the midst of a mountain wilderness, at a place called Pontoon Bridge, which, save the aforesaid barracks, has in it only a single house erected for an hotel, but at present occupied as a shooting and fishing lodge by a well-known London publisher. Lough Conn is crossed at its narrowest point, after which we skirt the lower lake known as Lough Cullen, and, eventually quitting the land of the mountain for the land of bog, in due course reach Ballina, a town of some pretension so far as population and hotels are concerned, as it numbers something like 5500 inhabitants, being half as many again as Castlebar, and supports three or four capital hotels, which is what very few second-rate Irish towns can manage to do.

From Ballina to Ballybeg is a dreary drive through a somewhat mountainous country, every acre of which has been reclaimed by the hard industry of the small tenant farmers and peasantry, patch by patch, and year after year. A whole mountain side, Dr. Roughan tells us, in the neighbourhood of Ballycastle, near to where Miss Gardiner's property is situated, has been converted from a wet moss into wholesome pasture and arable land by the hard labour of the tenant-farmers who lived at its base; and it is the same in other parts of Mayo. Wherever the peasant's farm edges on the bog or mountain, he is certain to reclaim it, bit by bit, rood by rood; until at last the marketable value of the estate is so enhanced by his labour that in many instances the land, which at one time was not worth sixpence an acre, becomes worth ten shillings—rivaling the famous instance cited by Mr. Senior, of the barony of Ferney, the tenants of which, without assistance, raised its value from £3000 to £50,000 a year!

To reach Ballybeg it was requisite to drive through Miss Gardiner's grounds, through a gate that no longer swung on its hinges, and past a lodge the picture of Hibernian decay—although the owner, if not of Scotch birth, is at any rate of Scotch extraction. In the neighbourhood of her residence, and indeed as far as Ballina, she is known by the sobriquet of "Man Gardiner," from her habit of commonly going about, not over her own domain merely, but through the streets of Ballina in semi-male attire, and latterly, I was informed, with the stock of a revolver peeping out of her jacket pocket. The somewhat extensive grounds surrounding her residence of Farmhill appear to be untidily enough kept, none of the trees seeming to have been trimmed for years. Just as the road sweeps round to the house a little shepherd's cottage is passed on the left hand, where four police constables are at present installed, although Miss Gardiner has now been absent from Farmhill for several months. A broken window in a small outbuilding immediately adjoining the house is pointed out as being the one through which a charge of shot was fired on the evening preceding Christmas Day, when some eight grains wounded Miss Gardiner in the head. This attempt at assassination followed close upon the service of the notices of ejectment on Miss Gardiner's Ballybeg tenantry, and was an unquestionable result of it. Still, none of the latter were arrested, neither did the suspicion of the police point in that direction; though it is impossible not to surmise that some of them, at any rate, had a guilty complicity in the attempt against Miss Gardiner's life. And this is the dreadful feature in these affairs, that families who for generations have lived respectable members of society and preserved a thoroughly unsullied name, should, with reason, be suspected of a guilty knowledge of the violent means about to be taken to avenge, if not to redress, their wrongs.

At the extremity of the grounds of Farmhill is Ballybeg, a small hamlet of cottages, each with its adjacent outbuildings. The first habitation reached is that of Michael Moreghan, who, with his aged wife and one of his sons, with the wife of the latter and their four young children, still occupy it, the family being allowed to remain a limited time as "caretakers," although they were formally evicted on March 29. The old man himself was on a bed of sickness, from which the chances are that he will never rise again. The son—a big-boned, muscular, outspoken Irishman—had made arrangements to emigrate, with his wife and children, to the United States during the present month. His brother Arthur, who is also married, and whose cottage is situated some fifty yards off, had done the same; and such was found to be the case with the remainder of the younger tenants. But it was different with the old people—the two old men of seventy and their wives, and the still more aged mother of the Howards. They were unprepared to cross the Atlantic simply to lay their bones on American soil, and throughout the district, where they had lived all their lives, for miles not a cabin was to be procured; as there, as elsewhere in Ireland, directly a tenant vacates his cot it is levelled to the ground. The world, indeed, was "all before them where to choose their place of rest;" and out into the world these old people will have to go.

The peculiar hardship of the foregoing case seems to be—1st, That all the tenants had lived for generations on their holdings, the land, in the first instance, having been reclaimed by their ancestors; 2nd, That a considerable proportion of them were upwards of seventy years of age; 3rd, That the present tenants had spent considerable sums on their holdings, having erected not merely their own cottages and all their outbuildings, but had gone to large expense in more completely draining the land; 4th, That their rents were from 70 to 75 per cent above the poor-law valuation of their holdings, and that neither of them owed their landlady a single sixpence; 5th, That the excuse—and in the district it was commonly regarded as an excuse merely—given for evicting them was that their cattle were habitually accustomed to stray over Miss Gardiner's grass lands, which might have been obviated by the lands in question being properly fenced by the owner of them, but for which, in lieu of this, the law provides efficient redress.

In many parts of Mayo tenants who escape eviction are, nevertheless, kept in constant dread of it by the system which largely obtains throughout the county of serving periodical notices to quit. A landlord in the Claremorris union, in the south eastern division of the county, annually serves notices to quit on the whole of his tenants; and the reason he gives for this proceeding is, that it is done with the view of preventing them from going to England or Scotland to reap the harvest—an act of petty tyranny which none but an Irish landlord would be guilty of. But more flagrant cases than

the foregoing are becoming common. Yearly tenants are compelled to "sign a written agreement binding them to give up possession, *without notice*, on the 1st of the following November, and authorising the landlord to distrain for rent, which, under the ordinary tenancy of the country, he would not be legally entitled to do until twenty-one days after Nov. 1."

The wages of agricultural labourers in the county of Mayo appear to be a shade better than in Roscommon—that is to say, at this period of the year men receive as much as 1s. 6d. per day. I could not find that they anywhere received the 12s. and 14s. a week spoken of in the poor-law inspector's report. Yearly servants seemed to be universally paid 6s. per week, except in particular and most unfruitful districts, where certain Scotch farmers have reduced them to 5s., exciting merely a mild remonstrance on the part of the poor oppressed peasantry, who, instead of invoking the vengeance of Rory, have contented themselves with chalking on the ploughs and outbuildings of the farm "tenpence a day is hard living." "When kept in constant employment," remarks Dr. Roughan, "I think the agricultural labourers are generally contented; but, I regret to say, the great bulk are not kept in that state of constant employment which would ensure their contentment. From the digging out of the main crop of potatoes in October until the early spring following there is no employment for them. Another source of their discontent is the want of suitable habitations for themselves and families, and of a small patch of land for potatoes."

There are more outrages to chronicle this week, the principal being the murder, in the county of Kildare, of a young man named Riddex, who was shot in the head, a few evenings since, from behind a ditch, while on his way home to Newtown, and died from the effects of his wounds shortly afterwards. A man named Hosey is in custody on suspicion. In Westmeath Mr. Hope, a well-to-do farmer, has been threatened at his own gate by a party of five men, armed with revolvers; and from Tipperary it is reported that a large armed band is going about at night demanding firearms of those known to be in possession of them.

FINE ARTS.

EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

The general impression respecting the present exhibition at Burlington House seems to be that it is inferior to last year's show, and even below the average of recent years. Several of our leading artists do not reach their customary standard. In the Great Room particularly, which is devoted, more exclusively than formerly in Trafalgar-square, to the works of Academicians and Associates, there are many melancholy instances of declining powers; while several of the "rising men" scarcely maintain the ground they had won. Instances of elevated and refined aim or of thought and invention in choice and treatment of subject are few and far between; our native school being about on a par with the schools of the Continent in this respect, though comparatively free from their meretricious vice. Evidence of the natural capacities of our artists appears in great variety, as usual, but imperfect training is betrayed on all hands; the inference is therefore inevitable that a sound technical education in art is the exception in our school, whereas on the Continent it is the rule. However slender the natural gifts of a foreign professional artist, his productions are always workman-like and executed on sound principles of taste technically considered. But it is certainly not so with us; and it behoves those in charge of the national interests to devise a more efficient system of fine-art instruction than any now existing.

Perhaps the unsatisfactory impression which the exhibition produces is in part attributable to the new mode of hanging. The walls are very sparingly covered (especially in the Great Room and Lecture Room), intervals between the pictures being left more uniformly than last year, and the result is neither advantageous to the pictures nor agreeable to the eye as mere upholstery. Differences in the sizes of the pictures become more unpleasantly perceptible when their frames are separated, and the ill-balanced intervals which the separation of pictures of different sizes entails is often obviously detrimental to the works themselves. Experience has taught that nothing harmonises so well with oil paintings as gold; but the intervention of strips and patches of dull red tends to neutralise both the harmonising and decorative value of the gilt frames, and frequently presents a key of colour palpably injurious to that of the picture it is near. It is also a mistake to suppose that any benefit arises from isolating pictures of diverse character. Only works similar in effect (and which may, of course, always be kept asunder) suffer, while those dissimilar mutually gain with approximation by serving as a foil to each other.

Reserving further general remarks, we proceed to a detailed review of the present collection at Burlington House. But first, before criticism takes its course, let us pause to recall the loss which our school has sustained in the sudden and untimely death of Daniel Maclise, to whose memory a tribute is paid elsewhere. We are reminded of that loss in his last picture (197), representing the chief of the Desmonds wounded and taken prisoner, but still defiant, borne on a hurdle from the battle-field by Ormond's men. The picture has all the painter's characteristics of fertile invention, wealth of detail, scientific skill in draughtsmanship and modelling, and ungrudging care in finish. Another sensible loss the Academy has sustained in the death of the graceful landscape-painter Creswick, of whom there are two late examples, "Mill near Whitby" (179) and "Afternoon" (485).

Among the artists left to us Mr. Millais proves himself incontestably the foremost. This year he has ventured on representing the nude female figure lifesize with a triumphant success above all cavil. The subject is the delivery of a damsel, whom catiffs have stripped and bound to a beech trunk, by an armed "Knight Errant" (202). A poetic conception of the spirit of chivalry (which some might not have credited to the painter), is indicated by the chaste ascetic expression of the victorious knight. To reassure the maiden's modesty, he approaches from behind to sever with his sword the cords that bind her. She half turns her head towards him with distressed deprecatory gesture, not yet confiding in the "maiden" knighthood of her deliverer. Her ripe, fine, mould of form, glowing with the young flush of womanhood at its loveliest, enhances the chivalric sentiment of the situation. The drawing, modelling, flesh textures—above all, the boldly impastoed colouring of her figure, especially her lower limbs and the painting of the knight's face and armour—reveal an intense directness of artistic imitative power which can only be compared to that of the great masters of the Venetian school. Here, at last, is the "secret" of that school—the secret simply of vigorously and loyally transferring nature to canvas by no roundabout technical artifices. The picture is like the works of Titian and Giorgione were when fresh from their easels, not as we now see them. There is nothing here done at secondhand; there is nothing here uncertain and fumbling,

nor is there any meretricious wax-work unreality or pretentious affectation of dignity to flatter the eye of shallow or vitiated taste. Yet—again in this resembling the productions of the great Venetians—the picture is no less satisfying to the healthy imagination and the refined æsthetic sense, than it will appear true to nature to prosaic matter-of-fact perceptions. It is instructive to compare this picture with Mr. Watts's tricky but not very seductive "Fata Morgana" (193) hard by—an unfortunate and incomplete example, it is true (the stiffened leg of the Morgana being in particular an unaccountable error in design), yet sufficiently representative for our purpose. Well, it is evident that Mr. Watts has been consciously thinking of the old masters as obscured by the dirt of ages, while Mr. Millais has unconsciously rivalled them by simply looking at Nature in her perennial freshness. Mr. Watts's aims are nobly elevated, but he rarely approaches their attainment nearer than some stage of interesting experiment. Intentions, however, go for little in art; it is "the painter's first duty to paint," and Mr. Watts's samples of flesh-painting this year, both in the Fata Morgana and the unlovely "Daphne" (1018), fall so far short of achievement that, looking at them from any but a dilettante point of view, they might almost be pronounced tentative disasters. The opaque, scumbled lights, and viscid, sullied shadows of the first are disagreeably discordant; and in the second the flesh resembles leather in colour and half-polished bronze in texture. Of the amazing inequalities of this artist we are reminded by the head of Mr. E. Burne Jones (107), which, for character and unexpected purity of colour, is one of the finest portraits the artist ever executed.

Returning to Mr. Millais, his next best work, to our mind, after the "Knight Errant," is the suggestive and happily-imagined "Boyhood of Raleigh" (334)—the future discoverer with his brother listening, with admirably-rendered expressions of absorbed interest and grave wonder, to the marvellous yarns of a sun-burnt Genoese sailor, who points emphatically over the blue sea of the Devonshire coast towards the far-off Spanish main. The toy-ship the boys have been sailing, the rusty anchor, the spar of a wreck on which the sailor sits, the birds'-skins of tropical plumage at his side, the cloudless sky, the calm twinkling sea, and the brilliant sunlight painting nature in colours bright as the iris tints of young hope, all serve poetically to tell the story of the nascent love of adventure, forgetful of its latent danger and of the worthlessness of its showy spoils. Mr. Millais's most popular picture, at least with all mothers, though not his best, will probably be "A Flood" (91). An incident similar to that represented actually occurred in the Sheffield floods some years since, and formed the subject of a picture by Mr. Hayoll exhibited at Suffolk-street. A baby has been washed away in its box-like wooden cradle from a cottage, and glides towards the swifter current of the swollen watercourse, turbid with yellow earth-stains. A kitten has also found refuge on the narrow prow of the floating ark, and mews with instinctive terror. The baby is now awake, and stretches its little hands gleefully towards a flight of gold-finches fluttering overhead among the dripping boughs of a tree towards the stem of which the cradle drifts perilously near. Succour is, however, at hand, from the father, who approaches in a punt; so fears of a tragic issue are partially allayed. Still, a simply painful element is, perhaps, too sensationally prominent; and the introduction of the kitten, albeit perfectly natural, slightly smacks of claptrap. Portraiture in the hands of so masterly a painter as Mr. Millais must, of course, possess far higher pictorial value than we are accustomed to find in English portraits. Nevertheless, his works of this class strike us as less complete than his subject-pictures. Thus in the whole-length of the Marchioness of Huntly (989), standing in a conservatory, with her basket of newly-cut exotics, and hands folded, one wearing a garden-glove, though the figure has natural unstudied grace, and the handling is astonishingly skilful, too much of the modelling is left at an indicative stage, and by the bravura of the indication (as well as by the absence of tone in the white dress) draws attention from the face. A similar remark applies to the rather thin and tinted half-length of Mr. Kelk (48), though the colouring is more agreeable than in last year's portrait of Mr. Fowler, and also in a stronger degree to "A Widow's Mite" (928), a young widowed dressmaker depositing her offering in a box of the Hospital for Consumption.

"Queen Victoria Meeting the Prince Consort on his Return from Deerstalking in the Year 1850" (162), a large picture by Sir Edwin Landseer, contributed by her Majesty, was, we believe, painted some years ago, at a period when the state of Sir Edwin's health so seriously alarmed his friends—which may account for obvious shortcoming. If this be a true explanation, we may the more rejoice at finding the artist at his strongest in two other works. One is a noble portrait, lifelike, or nearly lifelike, of the famous race-horse Voltigeur (105), winner both of the Derby and St. Leger in 1850. He had put on some flesh when painted in his stable retirement; but his coat is as satiny as ever. A fine cat, his favourite stable-companion, looks up at him from his fore hoofs, as though to lure the attention which he renders to the gambols of her kitten, and Sir Edwin reminds us in the catalogue that "a cat may look at a king." The artist has painted nothing with more masterly breadth of effect than this. Darwinian theorists who find our "poor relations" in the monkey tribes, have found an unanswerable champion in Sir Edwin. The "human face divine" was never more pathetic than in his picture "Doctor's Visit to Poor Relations at the Zoological Gardens" (265)—an old monkey is nursing her little one in the last stage of consumption; and the tender, sorrowful solicitude of the mother, and the piteous, appealing look of the sufferer are indescribably touching; whilst, by way of contrast, a robust little black monkey in the background, christened "Doctor" in the gardens, instead of caring for the patient, gorges himself with one orange as he guards another between his legs.

Mr. Hook, more than in any previous year, shows, like Mr. Millais, the true painter-power in pre-eminent degree in the subjects he has sent from his new sketching-ground on the Dutch coast. The material pigments seem to acquire fresh richness and potency as they flow from his full-charged pencil. He renders the misty, luminous, grey skies, and the shallow, quiet, sandy seas, of Holland with a vivid truthfulness rivaling the best Dutch painters and without their mannerisms. His "Brimming Holland" (158), a busy canal-scene looking from a wharf strewn with vegetables and poultry; and his scene (93) on the Schevening coast, with women sorting and selling the fish just brought in by the boats from the Dogger-bank, are quite unequalled in their way. Excellent technical ability, though differing in the method, is also displayed in Mr. Faed's "When the Day is Done" (192), a Scotch cottage interior at bedtime, with the gudeman dozing already in his chair after the day's toil, his newspaper dropped on his lap; the gudewife rocking baby in its cradle; one little fellow shaking his clothes off as he rubs his sleepy eyes, and another, already undressed, saying his prayers at granny's knees. There is genuine sentiment in this glimpse of happy and innocent humble life; but the sense of repose would have been helped

by greater breadth of chiaroscuro and less detail of lines and forms in the background. We need hardly say that the colouring and execution are admirable. Mr. Faed has also a charming picture of a "Highland Mother" (968). Mr. Goodall is more than usually vigorous and masculine in his large picture (504) of "Jochebed," the mother of Moses, taking, under friendly covert of the shades just preceding dawn, a last embrace of her babe before committing it to the ark of bulrushes among the tall flags of the Nile's brink. Here is another example of the treatment of the nude, or nearly-nude, female figure which may be warmly commended to the student's emulation. The drawing of the noble contours is firm and masterly, the modelling emphatic and well-understood, the deep, rich tone of the flesh harmonious, the textures smooth, yet neither hard nor waxy nor woolly.

Mr. Poole's version of the banquet scene in the fifth day's story of the Decameron, at the moment of the appearance of the spectre huntsman pursuing the phantom lady who in life had rejected him, will fascinate the imaginative and enchant all persons with a sense of colour; but it can scarcely satisfy those possessed of strong dramatic instinct. So superbly gorgeous a piece of colouring is not to be found elsewhere on the Academy walls. The wealth of colour in the figures and nobly-conceived landscape background is like a grand chorus in music. There are also in this, as in all this poet-painter's works, arbitrarily artistic effects of lighting which captivate the romantic fancy, and which are besides, in their weird preternaturalness, peculiarly appropriate to this particular subject. Judged, however, by the standard of dramatic proprieties, the inaptitude of the artist's genius for the realisation of action and emotion adequate to such a theme as he has unfortunately chosen, is at once apparent in—to go no further—the motionless knight, with his passive hell-hounds and the leisurely lady supposed to be chased. Mr. Calderon seems to be lapsing into decorative slightness, and his figure-drawing stands in need of correction—witness the picture (369) of two girls in classical draperies beneath a clematis-bush, one dipping water from a stream. He partially compensates, however, by gracefulness of fancy for these deficiencies in the charming allegorical picture of "Spring" (1012). Winter, in the guise of a decrepit old woman, crouching by the dying embers of a fire, is suddenly surprised by Spring in the form of a gay and blooming white-robed damsel, who pelts the old hag with lilac-flowers. More solidly realistic in execution, but somewhat factitiously sentimental in feeling, is the picture (143) of a harp-girl, with dark-circled eyes, playing in the snow of a London square—a sweet-faced, delicate-looking little brother at her side shivering beneath his thickly swathed mufflers. Mr. Horsley works his customary vein of lightest genre with his customary success in "Negotiating a Loan" (147)—a fashionable young dame of the seventeenth century ogling from behind her fan a middle-aged money-lender surrounded by his cash-boxes and parchment securities. The lady's charms may not strike the spectator as quite so irresistibly persuasive as the painter probably intended them to appear; nevertheless, there is already some indication that they are not without effect on the hard man of business. Another pleasant and genial picture is "Old Folk and Young Folk" (306)—the former dozing or chatting in the darkened chimney nook of an old manor-house, the latter love making at the sunny oriel, or—those of fewer years—whetting their appetite at the buffet. Both pictures remind one of the old Dutch interior painters, not to Mr. Horsley's disparagement. Mr. Frith is represented in his dainty, petit manner; not in the robust style of last year's "Man in Armour;" his faces show a slight tenderness to sameness, but his accessories generally are painted with great skill. His numerous contributions are singly of comparatively minor importance. The best (267), in point of humorous finesse, is the illustration of the "Sentimental Journey," where Sterne, surprised feeling the pulse of the young Frenchwoman, is saluted by her polite husband. The picture (157) of the interview between the bashful Sir Roger de Coverley and the perverse widow rather misses the subtlety of the author's humour: Sir Roger is too near an approach to a nonentity. Mr. Frith has also a picture of life in the gardens at Homburg (1031), with the ladies smoking their cigarettes; a small half-length portrait of Mrs. Rousby as Princess Elizabeth in "Twixt Axe and Crown" (364), an "Amy Robsart" (908), and "Gabrielle d'Estrées" (981). Mr. Ward has found a good medium for displaying his inventive and suggestive resource in rehabilitating the past, and a favourable field for indulging his intense dramatic sympathies in the strongly contrasted "Judge Jeffreys and Richard Baxter" (203) at the trial of the latter in Westminster Hall. Jeffreys's countenance, which, according to his portraits, was sometimes quite placid and refined, is here reddened and distorted by his tyrannic passions and debauchery, as he exclaims, pointing to Titus Oates in the pillory outside, that if the author of the "Saints' Rest" stood also there the two greatest rogues in the kingdom would stand together. The coarse mannerism into which this artist has fallen in his painting of recent years is less marked here than in the picture of Robespierre's visit to the cell of the Duchess d'Angoulême in the Temple prison (363), replica of a picture exhibited some years back at the French Gallery. Before turning for the present from the production of artists of full Academic rank, respectful welcome is due to two remarkable pictures by M. Gerome, the only one of the seven newly-elected honorary foreign Academicians who has contributed. These are the "Death of Marshal Ney" (118) and "Jerusalem" (985), at the crucifixion, pictures already made famous by exhibition at Paris and through the medium of photography. It may, therefore, suffice to say that both exemplify the master's passion for scenes of terror and awe, both are conceived with the full force of a singularly realistic imagination, and both are almost perfect as paintings.

Here we must break off till next week.

A large portrait picture by Mr. Desanges, which the artist has recently painted in Italy, is on view at Mr. Graves's, Pall-mall. It contains lifelike full-length portraits of Prince Umberto, heir-apparent to the Crown of Italy, and his beautiful young consort, Princess Margherita, with their infant child, the Prince of Naples. The picture is to be engraved by Mr. T. L. Atkinson. There is also on view, and likewise to be engraved, a picture of great merit, both as regards conception and execution, by Mr. R. K. Morris, entitled, "Where They Crucified Him," and representing Calvary the day after the crucifixion. The picture is similar in subject, but different in treatment, to the first work which brought Mr. Morris into notice.

The revenue of the Swiss Confederation amounted in 1869 to 22,049,352f., and the expenditure to 21,744,458f.

A large "joss," or idol, has been sent home from China by Admiral Keppel, as a present for the Prince of Wales, and has arrived at Sandringham. The figure weighs about 30 cwt., being made of metal. It is not of great height, but of massive proportions. The ornamentation is elaborate, and the whole details of the figure are marked by painstaking minuteness.

MUSIC.

THE OPERAS.

The revival of Cherubini's "Medea" at the Royal Italian Opera on Saturday afforded a welcome hearing of one of the grandest productions of musical genius and art, realised in a performance of high general efficiency. This masterpiece of serious opera was produced in 1797, three years before the same composer's "Les Deux Journées," the two being perhaps the finest of his many admirable stage works, which ranged from 1780 until 1833, when "Ali Baba," the production of his seventy-third year, closed his career as a composer for the stage, his death having followed nine years afterwards. While having all the dignity, elevation, and purity of the highest Greek art, "Medea" is characterised by occasional passionate warmth and a rich elaboration of orchestral detail worthy of Mozart, with whom Cherubini alone could compare among the dramatic composers of the last century.

"Medea" was produced at Her Majesty's Theatre in 1865, when Mdle. Titiens represented the principal character, and Dr. Gunz that of Jason (Jason) the first important feature having been repeated when the opera was performed at the same establishment in 1867, with the substitution of Signor Mongini in the other principal part. As now given at the Royal Italian Opera, Mdle. Titiens is again the Medea, and Dr. Gunz the Jason, both being performances of high merit, the first indeed unapproachable by any other stage singer of the present day. But for Mdle. Titiens we could scarcely now hear the great masterpieces of tragic and heroic opera; the heroines of which, as in "Medea," require rare and exceptional powers of voice, declamation, and stage action. In the expression of the varied emotion of alternating wrath and grief—the rage of the deserted wife, the tenderness of the despairing mother, all finally centreing in one dire purpose of vengeance—Mdle. Titiens's performance is one of the finest ever seen on the lyric stage. In the first scene of the unexpected appearance of Medea, and her fierce denunciation of Jason's intended marriage with Dirce—in the difficult air which follows, and the fine duet at the close of the act, Mdle. Titiens sang with admirable power and expression. The appeal to Creon, and the duet with Jason, in the second act, were other instances of vocal and dramatic excellence; the climax of the latter piece, in which wrath gradually replaces tenderness, having been given with splendid effect. From this point to the close the performance was one of unflagging energy and earnestness; and at the termination, as incidentally, it called forth the warmest proofs of recognition from the audience. Dr. Gunz as Jason could scarcely be replaced with advantage. His intellectual reading of the music and thoroughly earnest performance, both vocally and histrionically, are of high value in the general effect. In the two great duets with Medea, and in several portions of his declamatory recitative, this was strongly felt and appreciated by the audience. The part of Dirce found an efficient representative in Mdle. Bauermeister, as at Her Majesty's Theatre; her difficult air in the first act, "La misera innocente," having been extremely well sung and greatly applauded. Mdle. Scalchi, as Neris, also gained much approbation by her effective singing of the pathetic air, "Si le pene." Signor Bagagiolo, as Creon, displayed his fine bass voice, but was somewhat too cold and impassible in style and bearing. The other characters, Lania and Clyte, were sufficiently well filled by Mdles. Locatelli and Madigan. The choral and orchestral effects—both of special importance in "Medea"—were all admirably realised; and the performance throughout was one of special interest and importance. Signor Vianesi conducted.

On Signor Mario's reappearance (postponed from Tuesday week) and Madame Adelina Patti's return, both announced for to-night (Saturday), in "Il Barbiere," we must report in our next notice.

The only event to chronicle of the Drury Lane Opera is the successful appearance of Mdle. Reboux as the Countess, in "Le Nozze di Figaro." Of this young lady's début as Marguerite, in "Faust," we spoke last week. The production of Weber's "Abu Hassan," and Mozart's "L'Oca del Cairo," promised for Thursday week, was postponed to Thursday last, in consequence of Signor Gassier's illness. Of these works, and their performance we must speak next week.

Mr. Henry Leslie's concert of yesterday (Friday) week was a brilliant success; the attraction of several of the principal vocalists of the Drury Lane opera having served to draw a crowded audience. A selection of dramatic music by those artists, and the admirable part-singing of Mr. Leslie's choir in several madrigals and part-songs, made up an entertainment of high interest. Mr. Leslie's summer series of four concerts (to commence on May 11) will also comprise performances by the principal artists of the Drury Lane Opera Company, including Mdle. Christine Nilsson, who is to appear at each concert, Mr. Sims Reeves being announced for two of them.

The seventh oratorio concert of the season, and last but two of the present series, took place last week, when "Elijah" was efficiently performed, with no new features calling for special remark. At the next concert, on Wednesday, a sacred cantata "Rebekah," by Mr. Barnby, the conductor and director of the concerts, is to be given.

An interesting and useful course of lectures (to extend to twelve) has just been commenced by Mr. Arthur Sullivan at the South Kensington Museum. The subject is Vocal Music, in its Theory and Practice. In his introductory discourse the lecturer dwelt on the deterioration of the art of singing and the too ready acceptance of a fine voice imperfectly cultivated. Mr. Sullivan also touched on the importance of a more general study of the principles of harmony. The lectures, which are a part of the scheme for the instruction of women in science and art, under the direction of a committee of ladies, are to include part-songs, as illustrations, to be sung by ladies attending the course.

Mr. E. H. Thorne gave his morning concert at the Hanover-square Rooms on Monday, when he proved himself a pianist of high attainments by several performances, including Mendelssohn's second trio, in which he had the valuable co-operation of MM. L. Ries and Paque.

A complimentary benefit concert is announced for to-night, in aid of a well-known musical professor—Mr. T. H. Severn—who has been long disabled by illness.

Mr. Kennedy, the Scottish vocalist, has resumed his entertainment, "Songs of Scotland," at the Hanover-square Rooms, with a repetition of his former success.

Mr. Benedict's sacred cantata "St. Cecilia" (originally composed for the Norwich Festival of 1866) was produced in Paris, with great success, on Saturday last, the occasion having been that of the benefit of Mdle. Christine Nilsson, who is announced to appear at our Drury Lane opera to-night.

Haydn's oratorio "The Creation" will be performed for the only time this season, on the 20th inst., at St. James's Hall, by the National Choral Society—conductor, Mr. G. W. Martin.



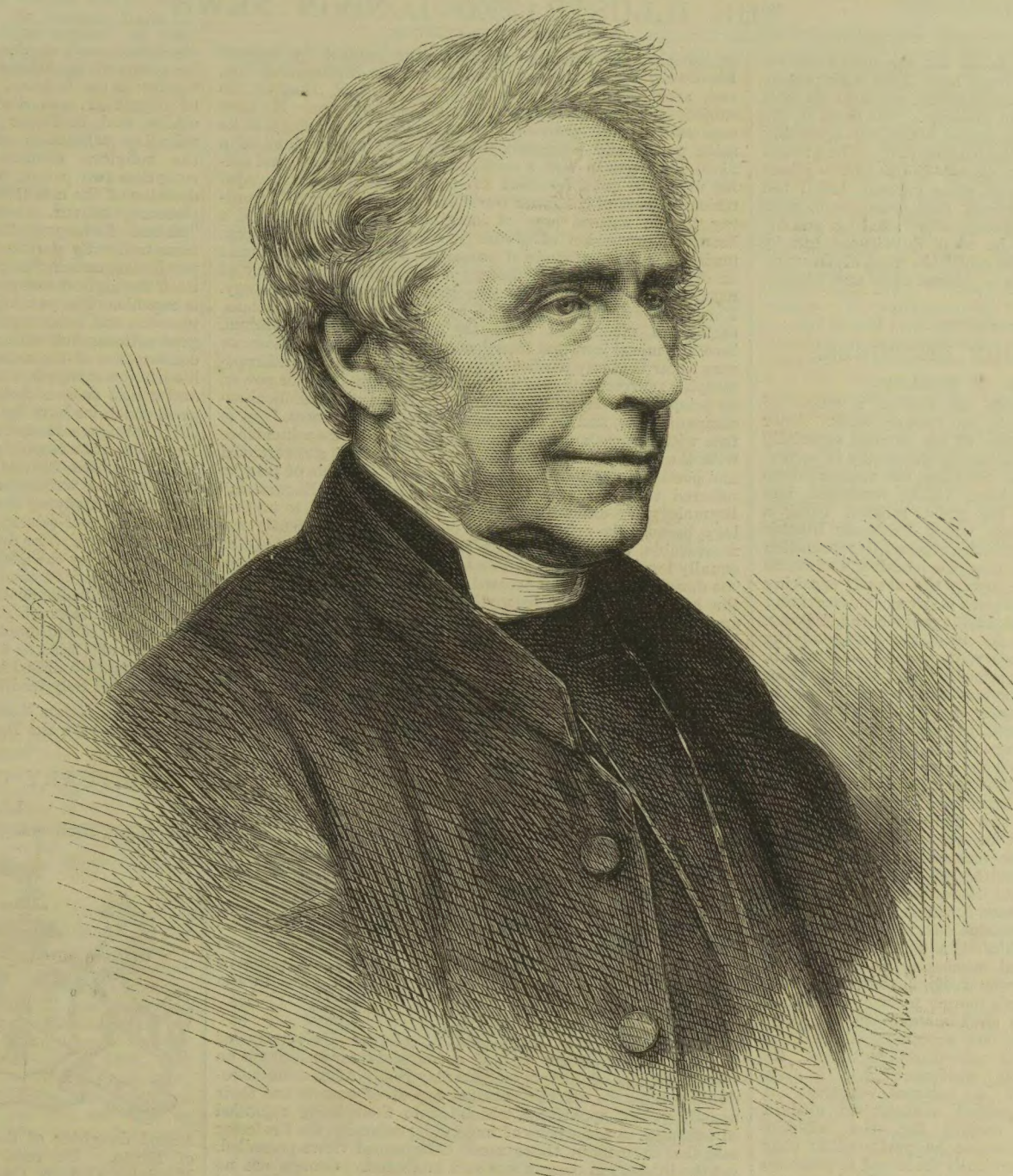
LINCOLN HORSE FAIR.

LINCOLN HORSE FAIR.

The annual fair at Lincoln is fixed by ancient charter to begin on the Tuesday of the last whole week in April; but the business usually commences on the Monday, or even on the Saturday before. This is more especially the case with the better class of horses offered for sale in the stables and yards. The supply at the late fair was not so large as in former years, and consisted less of horses bred in Lincolnshire than of such as were brought from distant parts of the kingdom by railway. There were twenty Prussian horses, by English sires; but most of those which claimed attention by their superior merit were from Ireland, or of Irish breed; and many Irish dealers were present willing to buy. The trade, however, was not very brisk, and the prices were little above those fetched last year; but nearly all the good carriage-horses, hunters, riding-horses, and ponies were sold by the Monday evening; and the cart-horses had their turn next day. Our Illustration, from a sketch taken on the spot, affords a good notion of the scene at the horse fair. The sheep fair, held on the Thursday, was not largely attended, but a brisk business was done.

WORKMEN'S STRIKE IN PARIS.

The popular agitation throughout France, caused by the Emperor's appeal to universal suffrage for the adoption of the new Constitutional reforms, has been greatly increased by the combined strikes of the workmen in several important trades, both in Paris and in the manufacturing towns. We have more than once referred to this subject in connection with the colliery, ironfoundry, and machine-factory of Messrs. Schneider, at Creuzot. The establishment of Messrs. Cail and Co., and others of the same kind in Paris, have been exposed to similar interruptions. The sugar-refiners, who form an

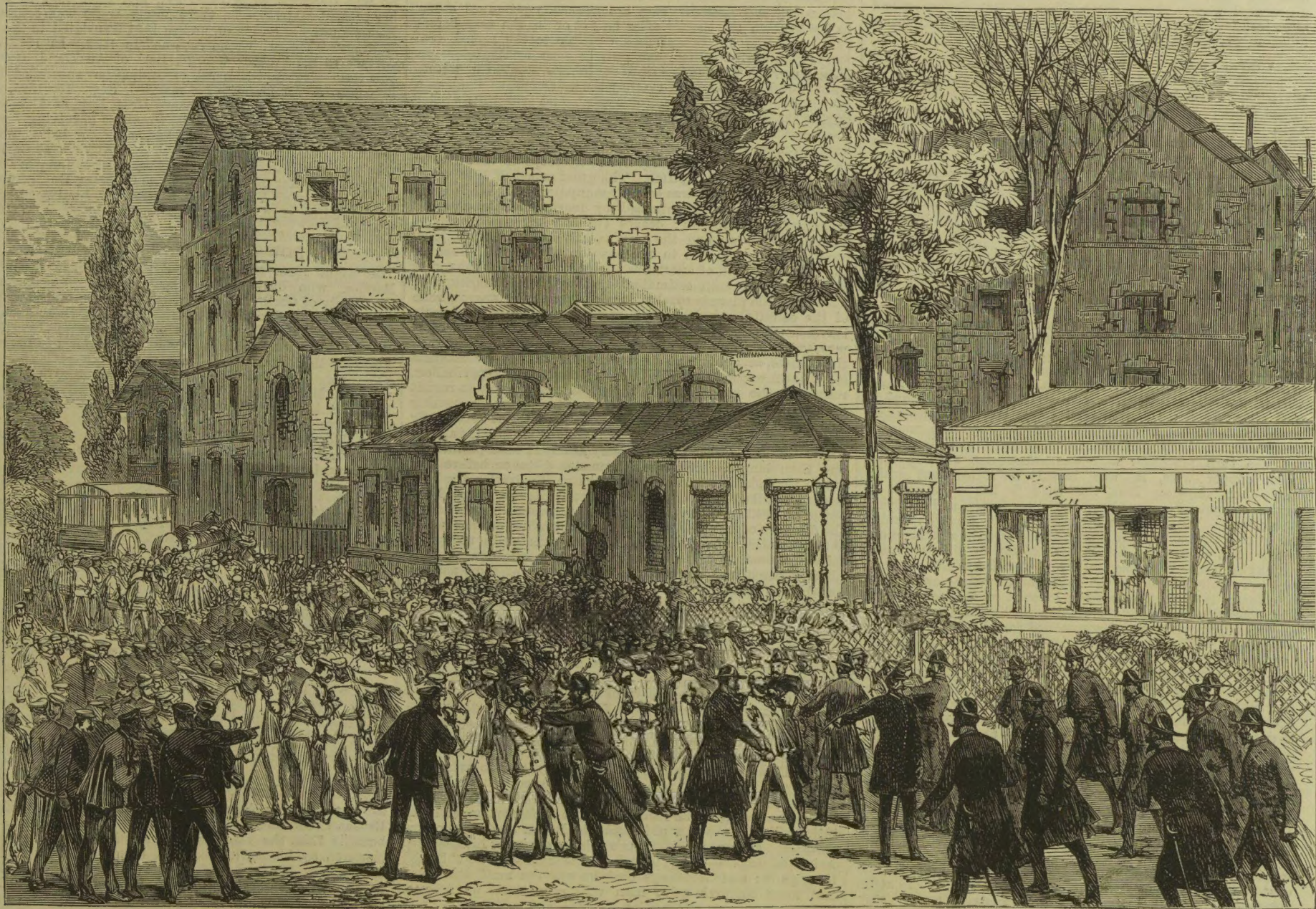


THE LATE BISHOP OF BATH AND WELLS.

important branch of Parisian industry, have once more struck work. This began in four houses at once, and the men visited other refineries in the hope of making converts. Resistance was offered, some fighting took place, and the police made a few arrests. At one house in La Villette the masters allowed delegates to enter their premises, merely closing their doors to the crowd of men on strike who accompanied them. The crowd, however, became impatient; and, after waiting some little time, broke open the doors and obliged the refiners to suspend work. The men thus forcibly driven away from their employment intend to return, and will, no doubt, be protected. An Illustration is given of the scene, on Tuesday week, at the sugar-works of Messrs. Sommer, in the Rue de Flandre, where the strikers became rather too violent in their striking, and several of them were taken into custody by the guardians of the public peace.

THE PUNCESTOWN RACES.

The Irish National and Kildare Hunt race-meeting at Puncestown, near Dublin, which was attended two years ago by the Prince of Wales, has this year been held as usual, and with good success. It took place on the 19th ult. and following days. The weather was fine, and there was a larger concourse of people than has assembled for many years. The Grand Stand was reserved chiefly for ladies, and adjoining it was a private stand, fitted up for the 6th Carabiniers, with a saloon, where troops of friends were entertained by Colonel Betty and the officers of the corps. The Scots Fusilier Guards and the 43rd Regiment were also encamped on the tented field in a spirit of free hospitality. The large stand was crowded with spectators during the races, and in the intervals between them the inclosures in front and the fields adjoining were filled with people discussing the merits of the



A STRIKE OF WORKMEN IN PARIS.

favourites and making up their books for the next event on the card. Lines of vehicles of every kind, filled with people, extended along the course in every direction, and dark clusters of people crowned the hills in the distance. The band of the Carabiniers played in front of the Grand Stand, and agreeably relieved the monotonous din of the betting ring. The ground was in excellent order for racing, except in one or two places where it was rather slippery, and some mishaps befell the most promising riders. In the second race one came to grief at the first fence, almost immediately after starting, and his horse showed how much better he could do without him by continuing its career with the rest until the close of the race. The illustration is from Sketches by Lieuts. Boyd and Briscoe, of the 47th Regiment.

ROYAL INSTITUTION LECTURES.

MORAL PHILOSOPHY OF SOCRATES.

Professor Blackie, F.R.S.E., gave the first of a course of four lectures on Moral Philosophy on Tuesday week. After a few remarks on the importance of his subject, especially at the present time, when the utilitarian philosophy is so prevalent, he gave a brief account of Socrates, the acknowledged master of all the ancient teachers, highly venerated and loved by his contemporaries—his great mission being a devoted opposition to the sophists, whom Professor Blackie characterised as aiming at the acquisition of general information and alert intelligence without a philosophical basis or a scientific method of verification; as employing the art of speaking for political advancement without pure motives; as exercising a dexterous logic that aimed at the ingenious, the striking, and the plausible, rather than the true, the solid, and the judicious; as propounding a theory of metaphysics, which, by confounding knowledge with sensation, and subordinating the general to the particular, made wisdom consist rather in the expert use of present opportunity than in the moulding of materials according to an intellectual principle; and, generally, as inculcating a theory of morals which, by basing right on convention not on nature, deprived our passions of the imperial control of reason, and substituted for the eternal instinct of justice in the human heart the arbitrary enactments of positive law. The two fundamental principles of the ethics of Socrates were reason and sympathy. He asserted that men possess naturally an innate love of truth and of justice: this was the philosophy of common sense and of the New Testament. Socrates maintained that knowledge is virtue, and that reason is virtue; and by his life he exemplified the truth of his doctrine. In his conversational method of instruction he showed himself as a playful, gossiping, patient teacher, yet a high moral missionary, doing his work for love, and not for fees. He was truly devout, regarding religion as the keystone of man's moral nature. Professor Blackie described him as both a good monotheist and polytheist, worshipping Jove as the one supreme god, and yet honouring the inferior deities as subordinate agencies. He was, therefore, most unjustly condemned for impiety and immorality. He taught a rational doctrine of teleology, or final causes, a perfect contrast to modern positivism, which substitutes vacuity for the all-wise Creator. He was condemned because he preferred to obey God rather than man; and he heroically disdained to preserve his life by making the slightest admission of his adversaries being right and of himself being wrong; and he would not condescend even to ask to be released from the penalty. "Thus died the man," says Plato, "who of all with whom we are acquainted was in death the noblest, in life the wisest and most just." The Professor illustrated his lecture with many allusions to modern philosophy.

VOLTAIC ELECTRICITY AND ELECTRO-MAGNETISM.

Professor Tyndall commenced a course of seven lectures on Electrical Phenomena and Theories on Thursday week. His experiments began with illustrations of the great discovery of Volta in 1799. It was shown that when two strips of the same metal are immersed in water containing a little sulphuric acid, no action ensues; and that when two pieces of two different metals (pure zinc and platinum) are so placed, without contact, they also are unaffected; but that when the two metals are made to touch, either within or without the water, the zinc is attacked and dissolved, the water is decomposed, one of its elements—oxygen—is combined with the zinc as an oxide of zinc, while the other—hydrogen—rises in bubbles from the surface of the platinum. When the two partially-immersed metals were connected outside the liquid by a long copper wire, the effect was the same—the wire completing the so-called "circuit" being made the vehicle of what is termed a voltaic current. Employing an arrangement of cells, made up of the above-mentioned elements (forming a voltaic battery), Professor Tyndall devoted the remainder of his lecture to the examination of the properties possessed by the wire when it completes the circuit, but only then. When this wire was immersed in iron filings, they clustered round it and clung to it; when this wire was stretched under and made parallel to a suspended bar-magnet, the magnet was deflected largely from the magnetic meridian; and when a thin platinum wire was substituted for the long thick copper wire, it was raised to a brilliant white heat—thus showing that the wire is the vehicle of a power competent to produce both magnetic and thermal phenomena. When the connecting wire was wound round a bar of iron the bar became a part of the circuit and acquired power; but when wire clothed with cotton or silk was used instead of naked wire, the bar was isolated from the circuit and powerfully excited by the surrounding wire—every convolution of it evoking a certain amount of magnetism, and thus rendering it an "electro-magnet." In the ordinary electro-magnet the covered wire coiled round a hollow reel is termed the "helix;" the iron bar the "core;" and the piece of iron placed at the end of the magnet the "keeper," "armature," or "sub-magnet." Among his numerous illustrations Professor Tyndall exhibited the powers of the great electro-magnet employed by Faraday; and a model engine, by Froment, showing how the force of electro-magnetism may be applied to pumping water and pile-driving. He also showed how a musical tone may be obtained from the rapidly successive clicks produced whenever the electric circuit is alternately made and broken; and then, by an ingenious arrangement of levers and mirrors, he demonstrated the truth of Joule's discovery, that a bar of iron is lengthened when magnetised, its volume being unchanged. The formation of the magnetic curves (termed by Faraday "lines of force"), by the movement of iron-filings strewn on a sheet of paper placed over two bar-magnets, was beautifully shown on the screen by means of the electric light; and reference was made to De la Rive's acute suggestion, that the elongation of a magnetised iron bar may be due to a similar movement in its minute particles.

INTERPRETATION OF GREEK MYTHOLOGY.

Professor Blackie, at the Friday evening meeting, gave a discourse on the scientific method of interpreting popular myths, with especial reference to Greek mythology. He began

by noticing the principal works on the subject by Bryant, Blackwell, Payne Knight, Gladstone, Max Müller, and Cox, and, after commenting on its difficulties, said, that on no subject had so much learned nonsense been written. He then expressed his main proposition, that the Greek mythology, in its main points and prominent features, was the product of a vivid imagination and a subtle fancy acted upon by, and acting upon, the great forces of the outward world, and the mysterious powers of the inner world, in such a manner as, according to the natural laws of imaginative action, to create a beautiful procession of divine personages and divine actions, made after the similitude of human forms and human actions: in other words, Greek mythology is a religion and poetry of nature, a highly poetical anthropomorphic physico-theology. This proposition he illustrated by reference to the heavens, earth, sun, moon, and stars, the ocean and rivers, wisdom, love, the moral law, and conscience. He next showed how we may know that any particular god is the inferential anthropomorphic representation of any particular form, force, or power, by bringing the mythological figure with all its symbolical accompaniments, and in all its traditional completeness, face to face with nature, and interpreting the sign by its coincidence with the thing signified according to the laws of a reverential and poetical imagination. As a beautiful example of this, he referred to the fourth book of Wordsworth's "Excursion." Etymology is a difficult and slippery way in regard to mythology, because the original forms of words are frequently not recoverable, and two or three different etymologies may be equally legitimate; and if these be sought in another language, the danger of error is increased tenfold. Proceeding next to the historical element in mythology, the Professor protested against the reactionary tendencies of the present age, saying that there is nothing so cheap as historical scepticism: it makes a man look wise at small expense. There is no general presumption, he said, that the whole of mythology is theological, and that part is not a decoration and exaggeration of historical facts. Greek mythology, doubtless, comprehended hero-worship—Theseus, Hercules, and Æsculapius being great men deified. He then adverted to the influence of natural phenomena—such as earthquakes, volcanoes, and rocks—upon mythology, and referred to the story of Niobe. After expressing his opinion that very little of the Greek mythology was derived from foreign sources—such as Egypt, Palestine, or Phœnicia—he warmly protested against the notion of its originating in India and the mode of interpretation propounded by Professor Max Müller and advocated by Mr. Cox in his recent work on Aryan mythology, based upon comparative mythology and philology. Mythology, he said, deals in shifting figures and continual changes; it is kaleidoscopic; so that in many cases the attempt to recover a lost identity is hopeless, and in others delusive, because no such identity ever existed. The president, Sir Henry Holland, Bart., was in the chair.

COMETS.

Professor Grant, LL.D., F.R.S., of the University of Glasgow, delivered the first of a course of seven lectures on the Astronomy of Comets on Saturday last. After some introductory remarks on the peculiar aspect of comets and their usually sudden apparition, which led to their being regarded in past ages as precursors of impending calamity, the Professor said that in modern times more enlightened views prevailed, yet the interest in comets was still unabated. Comets are no longer regarded as meteors generated in the upper regions of the atmosphere, but are proved to be bodies revolving in obedience to the great law of gravitation, whose structure, as revealed by the telescope, has formed the groundwork of much interesting speculation. They are generally perceived either in the western sky shortly after sunset or in the east before sunrise. Some are conspicuously visible to the naked eye; but multitudes of comets can only be seen by the telescope. They generally continue in sight for a few months or weeks, and are rarely perceptible, even by the telescope, so long as a year. Some comets are circumpolar, and are thus visible during the whole of a cloudless night. This was the case with the great comet of 1811, which made so deep and lasting an impression on the popular mind. The brightness of comets varies from bare perceptibility in the telescope to visibility by the naked eye in the daytime. The great comet of 1843, when near the sun, at noon, was seen by many persons. While some comets have been accompanied by enormous tails, creating universal consternation; others (usually telescopic comets) have been tailless; and the tails, relatively to the head, have been generally opposite to the position of the sun. Some of the tails have been of enormous dimensions—that of the comet of 1843 having been estimated at a length of 150 millions of miles. While planets revolve in a comparatively narrow zone of the celestial sphere, and in one common direction, comets traverse every region of the heavens, and exhibit no community of movement—some moving in the same direction as the planets, and others in the opposite direction. Some comets come down to the sun, and, after the passage of the perihelion, return to the unfathomable bosom of space, never to revisit our system; while others revolve in elliptic orbits, returning to the perihelion at certain determinable, but not necessarily equal, intervals of time, being proverbially excentric in their orbits. Some approach the sun very nearly at their perihelion, and then launch forth to an immense distance before they attain the aphelia of their orbits. As an illustration the Professor described how the amazing perihelion velocity of the comet of 1843 furnished the means of forming a conception of the distance of the fixed stars; and then, after remarking on the interesting phenomena of comets revealed to us by the telescope, tending to throw light upon the question of their physical constitution, concluded with a notice of some ancient apparitions of comets, and the opinions respecting their nature entertained by Aristotle and other Greek philosophers.

PHILOSOPHY OF ARISTOTLE.

Professor Blackie commenced his second lecture, on Tuesday last, by characterising Aristotle as a portentous intellectual Titan, a walking college, an incarnate encyclopædia, a living inventory, and complete index of all things known; with a style as hard as his matter; the founder of a school antagonistic to that of Plato; but, like him, a perpetual dynast of intellect. The philosophy of Aristotle was paramount till three or four centuries after Christ, when the Fathers embraced Platonism, regarding it as a schoolmaster to bring the Gentiles to Christ. It recovered its supremacy in the Middle Ages among the schoolmen, but fell again at the revival of literature, owing to the reaction of the Reformation and the introduction of the new philosophy by Bacon and his contemporaries. In our own time Aristotle is regaining his position. Aristotle, says Goethe, looked at everything, and looked through it; and Grote says that he was the most cultivated and most comprehensive man who ever wrote on science. Aristotle was born at Stageira, B.C. 384, and, as his father was court physician to Amyntas II., of Macedonia, he became a wealthy man. He was a pupil of Plato, at Athens, for several years, distinguishing himself by his intellectual powers, being named the "nous" or intellect of the school. In 342 he was chosen by his friend Philip II. as tutor to his son, Alexander

the Great; and at the termination of this honourable office he returned to Athens and established himself as a public teacher in the Lyceum. He retired from Athens at the death of Alexander, and died at Chalcis, in 322 B.C. Aristotle's ethics, said Professor Blackie, in its essence, is merely a scientific tabulation of Socrates, with the omission of the religious element. It is essentially practical, and comprises two points, the doctrine of ultimate aims and the doctrine of the mean, What is the chief end of man? Is it pleasure, honour, knowledge, or money? None of these. The end of every creature is to perform its own peculiar functions well. By performing this work it not only fulfils its particular part in the great scheme of things but procures for itself the highest and greatest amount of happiness of which it is capable. The putting forth of its distinctive energy creates pleasure, and hence a good man is not he who merely performs good actions, but who rejoices in performing them. But, in consequence of the antagonism of his passions and his reason, his life is a struggle, a battle, and a victory. To facilitate this and ensure success, Aristotle insists that the germs of moral good which we have by nature should be nursed and trained till habits are formed; hence the necessity of education. Regarding the second point, the "golden mean," Professor Blackie quoted Proverbs xxv. 16, Eccles. vii. 16, and passages from various writers, ancient and modern, illustrating the doctrine by applying it to courage, hatred, benevolence, truthfulness, and self-esteem, and noticing the evils which accompany extremes. The driving power in Aristotle's philosophy he expressed by the question, "I am proud that God has made me a man; shall I condescend to make myself a beast?" In conclusion, Professor Blackie commented on the absence of the religious element in Aristotle, and protested against the dissociation of philosophy and religion, referring to the moral condition of China as a warning example, and exhorting the shrewd, moral-minded Englishman in this happy island of the West, full of holy traditions, not to repeat the experiment.

The Rev. Canon Moseley, on Friday next, May 13, will give a discourse "On the Descent of Glaciers."

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

LORD AUCKLAND.

The Right Hon. and Right Rev. Robert John Eden, D.D., Baron Auckland, of West Auckland, in the county of Durham, in the Peerage of Great Britain, and Baron Auckland, in the Peerage of Ireland, Bishop of Bath and Wells (retired), died at Wells, on the 25th ult. His Lordship was born July 10, 1799, the youngest son of William, first Lord Auckland, by Eleanor, his wife, second daughter of the Right Hon. Sir Gilbert Elliot, Bart., of Minto. He received his education at Eton, and at Magdalen College, Cambridge, where he graduated in 1819. Having entered into holy orders, he became Rector of Eyam, in Derbyshire, in 1823; of Hartingford Bury, Herts, in 1825; and Vicar of Battersea in 1835. From 1831 to 1837 he was Chaplain to William IV., and from 1837 to 1847 to her present Majesty. In the latter year he was consecrated Bishop of Sodor and Man, and in 1854 translated to the see of Bath and Wells, which he resigned in 1869. In 1849, at the decease of his brother George, Earl of Auckland, G.C.B., at one time Governor-General of India, he succeeded to the Baronies of Auckland. He married, Sept. 15, 1825, Mary, eldest daughter of Francis Edward Hurt, Esq., of Alderwasley, in the county of Derby, and leaves three surviving sons and four daughters, his eldest son and successor being William, present Lord Auckland, late Chargé-d'Affaires at Carlsruhe, who was born Jan. 19, 1829, and is married to Lucy Walbanke, youngest daughter of John Walbanke Childers, Esq., of Cantley, in the county of York. Our portrait of Lord Auckland, on the preceding page, is from a photograph by Mr. J. Webber, of Wells.

THE DOWAGER COUNTESS OF BANDON.

The Right Hon. Mary Susan Albinia, Dowager Countess of Bandon, who died at the family seat, Castle Bernard, in the county of Cork, on the 23rd ult., was the eldest daughter of the Hon. and Most Rev. Charles Brodrick, D.D., Archbishop of Cashel, by his wife, Mary, daughter of Dr. Richard Woodward, Bishop of Cloyne; and was sister of Charles, late Viscount Middleton, and of William John, seventh and present Viscount. Her Ladyship was born, Oct. 9, 1787, and was married, March 13, 1809, to James, second Earl of Bandon, D.C.L., F.R.S., by whom (who died Oct. 31, 1856) she had issue Francis, present Earl of Bandon; the Hon. and Right Rev. Charles Brodrick Bernard, D.D., Bishop of Tuam; the Hon. Henry Boyle Bernard, late M.P. for Bandon; and a daughter, Catherine Henrietta.

SIR R. BATESON, BART.

Sir Robert Bateson, second Baronet, of Killoquin, in the county of Antrim, died on the 15th ult., at his seat, Castruse, in the county of Donegal. He was born in 1787, the eldest son of the late Thomas Bateson, Esq., by Margaret, his second wife, daughter of the Rev. Joseph Douglas; and succeeded, in 1825, under a special limitation, to the Baronetcy which had been conferred, in 1789, upon his half-uncle, the late Sir Robert Bateson Harvey, of Killoquin. Sir Robert married, February, 1819, Eliza, second daughter of Anthony Hamond, of Hutton Bonville, in the county of York, but by her (who died in 1857) had no issue. The Baronetcy consequently becomes extinct.

SIR NORMAN PRINGLE, BART.

Sir Norman Pringle, sixth Baronet, of Stichill, died, at the British Consulate, Dunkirk, France, on the 18th ult. He was born, in 1789, the youngest son of Sir James Pringle, fourth Baronet, by his wife, Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Norman Macleod, of Macleod, and was brother of Sir John Pringle, fifth Baronet, whom he succeeded on June 15, 1869. Sir Norman entered the Army, in 1804, as second Lieutenant in the 21st Regiment. He served in Sicily in 1806, in Egypt in 1807, at the defence of Scylla Castle in 1808; in Spain, with the Catalan army, under General Lord William Bentinck, in 1812; and in Italy, at the capture of Genoa, in 1814. Proceeding with his regiment to America, he took part there in the

actions of Bladensburg, Baltimore, New Orleans, and the capture of Fort Boyer, in 1814 and 1815. He became Major in 1814. Subsequently entering the Consular service, he was appointed Consul at Stockholm in 1846, and was transferred to Dunkirk in 1857, remaining in the latter post till the time of his demise. Sir Norman married, in 1826, Anne, eldest daughter of Robert Stewart, Esq., of Alderston, by whom he leaves, with two daughters, three sons, the eldest of whom, Captain Norman William Drummond Pringle, 38th Regiment, born in 1836, is his father's successor.

FIELD MARSHAL HESS.

Heinrich, Baron von Hess, Field Marshal in Austria, and one of its most distinguished Commanders, died recently in Vienna. Born in 1788, he has been for sixty-five years in the military service of his country. His achievements connect the wars of the First Napoleon with those of Napoleon III. He fought at Aspern, Wagram, and Leipsic, and gained renown at Solferino. But the most important period of his military career was the campaign of 1849, when, principally through his science and tactics, the Piedmontese army was defeated by Radetzky at Novaro, and the war terminated in that memorable battle. He had previously long served under Radetzky, and to the last he retained the devoted friendship of that General. A magnificent military display accompanied the Emperor and the Archdukes to the Field Marshal's funeral, on the 18th ult., and the whole population of Vienna may be said to have assisted at the ceremony. In memory of the deceased soldier his regiment, the 49th, is, by an Imperial decree, to retain the name of "Hess" for ever.

MR. F. G. VYNER.

Frederick Grantham Vyner, Esq., one of the gentlemen whose murder by the brigands in Greece has created such profound sorrow, was youngest son of the late Captain Henry Vyner, of Gauthy, in the county of Lincoln, by Lady Mary Gertrude, his wife, second daughter and coheir of the late Thomas Philip, Earl De Grey, K.G., at one time Lord Lieutenant of Ireland; and grandson of Robert Vyner, Esq., of Gauthy, by Lady Mary Theodosia, his wife, daughter of John, second Earl of Ashburnham. The family of Vyner is one of considerable antiquity, position, and estate in the county in which it resides, being descended from Thomas Vyner, Esq. (son of Dr. Vyner, Dean of Gloucester), who became possessed of property in Lincolnshire and Cheshire under the will of Sir Robert Vyner, Bart., Lord Mayor of London in 1675. The gentleman whose death we record was youngest brother of the present Henry F. C. Vyner, Esq., of Gauthy, late M.P. for Ripon; of Henrietta, present Countess De Grey; and of Theodosia, Marchioness of Northampton.

MR. E. H. C. HERBERT.

Edward Henry Charles Herbert, Esq., of Tetton House, in the county of Somerset, another victim of the deplorable atrocity in Greece, was only surviving child of the late Hon. Edward Charles Hugh Herbert, by Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of the late Swete Escott, Esq., of Hartrow Hall, in the county of Somerset, and grandson of Henry George, second Earl of Carnarvon, by Elizabeth Kitty, his wife, daughter of Colonel Dyke Acland, of Pixton. He was born Sept. 1, 1837, and received his education at Eton, and at Christ Church, Oxford. In 1859 he entered the diplomatic service, and was appointed Attaché to the Embassy at Vienna. In 1861 he went to Lisbon, and in 1863 to Constantinople. Two years afterwards he returned to Vienna, and was thence transferred to Athens in 1868, being at the time of his death British Diplomatic Secretary in Greece. He was not married.

WILLS AND BEQUESTS.

The will of Edward Stanley, Esq., of Cross Hall, Lancaster, and 14, Grosvenor-square, Middlesex, was proved in London, on the 20th ult., under £140,000 personalty, by the Right Hon. the Earl of Dartrey, the testator's son-in-law; and Edward James Stanley, Esq., his son, the joint acting executors. The testator married, in 1819, Mary, daughter of James, Earl of Lauderdale; and died, March 8 last, aged eighty-one, having executed his will, Jan. 21, 1867, and a codicil April 29, 1869. He bequeaths to his wife an annuity of £1000 in addition to £2000 per annum under settlement; also all the jewellery worn by her, as well as all other ornaments of the person; the choice of two of his carriages, with suitable horses; and wines from his cellar to the amount of £1000. To his two daughters, whom the testator states are amply provided for under marriage settlements, he has left complimentary bequests as proofs of his affection. To Miss Emily Hammon, who had been for some time his reader, he leaves a legacy of £500; to James Read, footman to Lady Mary Stanley, an annuity of £25; and to Ann Brown, his cook and housekeeper, £30 a year. His real estate and the residue of his personal estate he leaves to his son Edward absolutely. The testator was Deputy Lieutenant for Lancaster, and a younger branch of the family of the Earl of Derby.

The will of Colonel Charles Leslie, K.H., of her Majesty's Army, late of the Grenadier Guards; of Balquhain, N.B., Hassop Hall, Derby; Slinndon Hall, Sussex; and Fetternear House, Aberdeenshire, was proved in London, on the 22nd ult., under £35,000 personalty in England. The executors are seven in number—viz., Charles Stephen Leslie, Esq., the son; Anthony Leslie and Louis Xavier Leslie, Esqs., the brothers; the Right Hon. Thomas Alexander Baron Lovat; Marmaduke Constable Maxwell, Charles Robert Scott Murray, and Henry James Stonor, Esqs. To each he has left a legacy of £500 for their trouble. The will is dated Nov. 22, 1867, and a codicil May 14, 1869. The gallant Colonel, who had served with distinction in the Peninsula, died at his residence, Slinndon Hall, on Jan. 10 last, at the age of eighty-two. He has left to his son and heir and only child his various estates, extending over the counties of Sussex, Gloucester, Northumberland, Derby, and also in Scotland. He leaves his diamonds and jewellery to descend as heirlooms with the mansion house of Fetternear, in Scotland. There are several pecuniary legacies to friends, numerous charitable bequests to Roman Catholic missions, and legacies to both in and out door servants.

The will of Frederick Wiltshire, Esq., has just been proved under £20,000. He has left to the twelve undermentioned charitable institutions a legacy of £50 each, duty free—viz., the Bible Society, Great Queen-street; the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, Church Pastoral Aid Society, Strangers' Friend Society, London City Missions, St. Ann's School, London Orphan Asylum, Infant Orphan Asylum, Royal Free Hospital; Royal Infirmary, City-road; Asylum for Idiots; and the Royal Hospital for Incurables, Putney.

The will of Miss Blanch Astley, of York-terrace, Regent's Park, was proved under £25,000. She has left small legacies to the following institutions:—The Norfolk and Norwich Hospitals, Middlesex Hospital, Deaf and Dumb Asylum; Consumption Hospital, Brompton; and the British Home for Incurables.

The will of Mrs. Emma Castleman, 74, Cambridge-terrace, Hyde Park, was proved under £40,000.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

R. C. Bury St. Edmunds.—When a little more experienced in chess-playing you will not think such a move as the one in question at all remarkable. Any player moderately proficient would see it at a glance. Still, to a young hand it is very creditable and promising.

V. GORGAS.—They shall have all due attention.

F. H. B.—The alteration in your diagram does not strike us as an improvement. What it requires is another move, which should be a *coup de repos*.

F. H. MONA.—No. 1 is too crowded. No. 2 appears to be defective. How can White mate on his third move if Black play 2. R takes B (check)?

JOHN SCOTT.—No. 2 admits of a mate at the first move, either by Q to Kt 2nd, or by Kt to K 4th.

D. E. L., T. T. Rae, W. Cotton, V. Gorgias, and S. G. have correctly solved the problem by Mr. Healey in our Number for April 16.

T. S. N., of Rio.—You have found the true solution of Mr. S. Loyd's problem in our Number for Feb. 26.

T. SMITH.—Always acceptable.

I. PHENIX.—The first position is clever and pleasing; the second allows of mate in three moves.

E. BRENNINGER.—There are two or three points in your letter which are not expressed with sufficient precision; but we shall give our opinion upon the question submitted, according to our understanding of them, next week. How is it that no record of the games beyond the number played in your tourneys is ever preserved? In such contests every move in every game should be registered, and the games all be kept for reference or publication.

THE CORRECT SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 1364 has been received (since the publication of our former list) from Abacus, V. Gorgias, L. of Milan; S. P. Q. B. of Bruges; Gymnast, Wisbech, F. T. D., Champion, H. C. D., Memphis, A. Wood, and Vrasio.

THE CORRECT SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 1365 has been received from I. D. W., Derevon, Presis, Q. E. D., Finnimore, D. P., T. E. Gould, C. B. D., Pip, R. D. T., A. C. L., Newport, W. Hirst, Fiddle, M. P., C. J. Joy, F. R. S., G. B. Blank, T. Vernon, Box and Cox, Laura, F. H. Mon, A. Wood, Rochester, George, Banchoe, W. W. B., Seymour, I. N. Keynes, Boz, Littlejohn, Paget, R. P. W., Geo. Airey, E. N., E. A., Manfred and Man Friday, L. E. D., Miranda, Phiz, Vanguard, Bobby, Miles, W. Trevor, I. Symons, H. S. P., A. Clerk, Victor, Severn, H. T. C.; B. of Frankfurt; Druid, Pigeon, L. S. D., A. Swode, Bloops, Andrew, Philo S., G. B. N., Omega, Wadhams, Lionel, Charley, Gregorian, E. A., Bingo, William, S. R. B., Tom Fiddler, H. A. K., Rufus, Piebald, Opal, R. B. S.; S. P. Q. B., of Bruges; A. Lady, H. Maurice, Clericus, Van Dunk, D. E. L., T. Smith, Harry, Barney, T. F. D., and Bevis.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 1365.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. B takes K R P	B to Q B sq (best)	3. B to K Kt 7th	Any move
2. Kt to K B 8rd (dis. ch)	K takes P	4. R or Kt mates.	

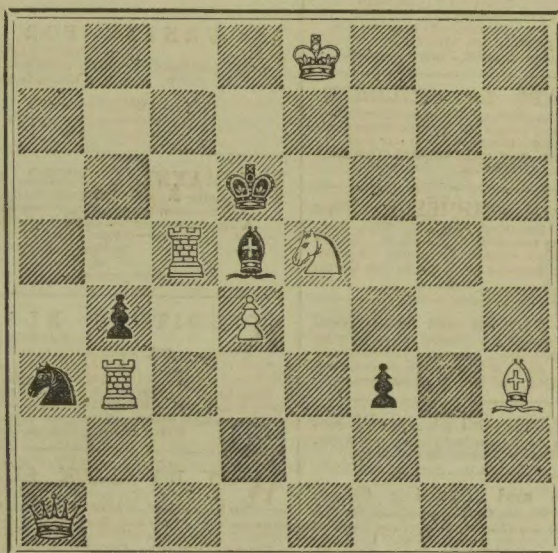
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 1366.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. K to K R 7th	Any move	2. Gives mate.	

PROBLEM No. 1367.

By Mr. J. W. ABBOTT.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White, playing first, gives mate in three moves.

AMERICAN CHESS NUTS.*

The composition of chess problems dates nearly as far back as the game itself; but it is only recently that the art has grown to such dimensions as the volume before us gives proof of. And now that the characteristics of a first-rate chess strategem have come to be thoroughly understood and practically defined, it is not to be expected that the present standard of excellence will undergo material alteration. Were it not indeed that chess is without a rival in this respect, that nothing can "stale its infinite variety," the possibilities of problem-making would ere this have given symptoms of exhaustion. But week after week, month after month, the supply continues. In the best-conducted chess columns, seldom sinking below mediocrity, often rising to indisputable excellence, "American Chess Nuts" is the felicitous title of a volume that contains about 2400 positions, composed by the most expert and most distinguished Transatlantic problematists. We must admit that in the examination of this stupendous collection we have been forced to content ourselves with samples only of the garnering. Still, we have submitted no inconsiderable proportion of it to careful review, enough, we do not hesitate to say, to enable us to express an approximate estimate, which is all that anyone can give and all that anyone will care for.

The recognised masterpieces of chess strategy have something of the epigram about them: they take rank generally from their point and polish conjoined with appropriate brevity. This admitted, the foremost place among the contributors to "American Chess Nuts" must be readily conceded to Mr. Samuel Loyd. No other composer has furnished to this collection problems of such excellence and in such numbers as this favourite problematist. Next to him we should rank the late Mr. George N. Cheney, who, though his contributions are far less numerous than Mr. Loyd's, is very little behind that gentleman in his appreciation of the merits of a fine problem and in the ingenuity and skill with which he has wrought out many elegant conceptions. After Mr. Loyd and Mr. Cheney, but *proximi longo intervallo* (for, though here and there among their very numerous positions we light on a gem, their usual standard is far below either of the two first), come Mr. Eugene B. Cook, Mr. Theodore Brown, and the late Mr. E. S. Brewster. Mr. Napoleon Marache supplies some very pretty mates, but his compositions are not particularly recondite. They are more in the old style of last century than in the fashion of to-day, with its subtle *coups de repos* and its elaborate by-play. Many others might be named who have contributed creditably to the swelling out of this gigantic tome. And many more who have added to its bulk by cramped and clumsy productions without adding to its interest by a single beauty.

The problems of three moves are far away the best in the collection. These will bear favourable comparison with the strategems of the most eminent British and Continental composers. Mr. Loyd and one or two beside do, it is true, occasionally succeed with four-move positions; but, as a rule, the American appears to get out of his depth when he ventures beyond the three moves. On this account many lovers of chess problems, who think the test of ability in this kind of composition lies in profound strategy, are inclined to assign a higher place to Dr. Konrad Bayer than to Mr. Samuel Loyd. The public, generally, we suspect, however, would reverse the preference.

In addition to the ordinary mates we have a considerable sprinkling of suicidal problems, and a smaller collection of situations fettered by special stipulations. In both classes there are some stratagems of ingenuity and elegance. Not a few, too, of the "Curiosities and Fancies" have afforded us amusement. The allusions in the names of these oddities are not, however, always pertinent, but the "Circus," "Faith, Hope, and Charity," and, in another respect, Mr. Loyd's "Mate in half a move," are unexceptionably good.

It is quite to be expected that in such a huge heap of nuts some should turn out rotten. The defective fruit we have come across is not, however, nearly so great as we anticipated. Attention has not been uniformly given to the naturalness of the positions, and occasionally the arrangement is absolutely hideous. Even Messrs. Loyd and Cheney are not exempt from errors in this respect, particularly with their Black Pawns. These, in one instance, the latter has posted at Queen's second, third, and fourth; at Queen's Bishop's second, Queen's Knight's third, and Queen's Rook's second, third, and fourth squares!

But these and other deficiencies of the work which we have noticed are attributable to the authors, and not to the editors. The latter have performed their task in a manner which entitles them to almost unqualified praise. The problems are exceedingly well arranged, and admirably printed. The typographical errors are singularly few; and, although we should have been better pleased if Messrs. Cook, Henry, and Gilberg, in their introduction, instead of a detail of the difficulties they met with in giving the collection to the world, had told us something of the chief composers and of the history of some of the compositions, we commend their book as a very valuable and beautiful addition to the literature of the king of games.

* A collection of Problems by the composers of the Western World. (New York: A. W. King.)

"FORGET-ME-NOT."

We have taken the liberty to give an English title to this charming little picture, the artist himself having christened it "Vergissmeinnicht," the German name for the tiny blue flower, strictly speaking, the "water mouse-ear," or, to be still more scientifically and painfully exact, the *Myosotis palustris*, but which is known to all the world as the "Forget-me-not." It may not be so readily discovered in our Engraving as in the picture that the little lass represented holds a few of the azure blooms in her hand, as, turning on us the challenge of her pleasant laughing face, she seems to charge our memory with herself in their name. Mr. Dobson, the distinguished painter of this picture is, we believe, of German parentage, and received his early education in Germany, so he may find some German words more poetically suggestive than those we may fancy to be their English equivalents. We confess we find nothing in the type or costume of the girl herself distinctly belonging to our cousins German, and therefore we appropriate her and her flowers as English. The charge she gives us from her flowery text is not necessary, for it is not easy to forget the charmingly bright and natural smile of girlish innocence with which she greets us. Nor can we easily forget the artist's success here. Although, when compared with his most serious efforts, the picture is but a trifle, yet we remember nothing of his more natural and spirited, or, in the flesh-painting, fresher and nicer in colour. The picture is exhibited at the gallery of the New British Institution, 39, Old Bond-street; and we may take this opportunity to say that the present exhibition at this gallery closes shortly, and will be succeeded by an exhibition of Old Masters, to open in June.

MAY MEETINGS.

The religious and charitable meetings this week began, at Exeter Hall, on Monday morning, when the Wesleyan Missionary Society celebrated its anniversary. Mr. W. S. Allen, M.P., was in the chair. According to the report, the income during the year had amounted to £145,750, and the expenditure to about the same. The document dwelt at length upon the work of the missions, which had been, for the most part, of a satisfactory and encouraging character.

In the evening the annual meeting of the National Temperance League was held in the same building. The income last year was £4154.

The annual general meeting of the members and friends of the Home and Colonial School Society was held, on Monday morning, at the society's house, Gray's-inn-road, under the presidency of the Earl of Chichester. The proceedings commenced with an examination of the children on the subjects in which they had been instructed during the past year; after which the noble chairman addressed them, and congratulated them on the progress they had made. A satisfactory report on the affairs of the institution was presented.

The annual general meeting of the members and friends of the Church Missionary Society was held, on Tuesday morning, in Exeter Hall. The Earl of Chichester presided. The report stated that the ordinary income of the year had been £141,828; the ordinary expenditure, £157,247. The society has 156 missionary stations, 203 European and 114 native and country born clergymen, with twenty European laymen, schoolmasters, &c.; eight European female teachers, 1694 native and country born Christian catechists and teachers of all classes not sent from home, and about 17,000 communicants.

The annual meeting of the British and Foreign Bible Society was held at Exeter Hall on Wednesday morning—the Earl of Shaftesbury in the chair. The receipts from all sources for the year ending March 31 reached £182,265; the total expenditure of the year was £173,476 2s. The issues of the society for the year are as follow:—From the dépôts at home, 1,271,902; from dépôts abroad, 914,284; total, 2,186,186 copies. The total issues of the society now amount to 59,396,671 copies. The number of languages and dialects in which the Scriptures are circulated has been raised from fifty to 185, while the number of versions in whole or in part amount to 225. In above thirty instances languages have been for the first time reduced to a written form, in order to give the people speaking them the Holy Scriptures.

The annual meeting of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel was held, in St. James's Hall, on Thursday week—the Archbishop of York presiding. According to the report, 481 clergymen, besides a large number of catechists and teachers, stationed, generally, in the most destitute places, are now maintained, wholly or in part, by the society. Last year the receipts were £106,434.

Prince Christian presided, on Thursday week, at the anniversary festival of the British Orphan Asylum, Slough, held at the Cannon-street Hotel. The company numbered about 200, and a list of subscriptions amounting to £1000 was read.

At the annual meeting of the Asylum for Idiots at Earlswood, held on Thursday week, it was stated that the numbers in the asylum are 307 males and 171 females. When the new buildings are finished their total will be raised to 800. The board would be glad of presents of musical instruments, books, toys, or pictures; a printing-press was very much needed. The financial statement showed a balance of £2004.

Lord Henry Cholmondeley, presiding at the meeting of the British and Foreign Sailors' Society, yesterday week, referred to the fact that more than 500 Christian captains are now afloat. The financial statement showed that the total receipts for the year had been £5436, and the expenditure £5110.

The 112th anniversary of the Orphan Working School was held, yesterday week, at the London Tavern—Mr. J. Hoare in the chair. Four hundred boys and girls from the institution, Haverstock-hill, were in the room during a part of the proceedings. The past year, commercially, had been a trying one, but the charity had been well sustained, both by the living and the dead. The committee acknowledged the largest amount in legacies, with one exception, the charity had received since 1758, the year when it was founded, and, with two exceptions, the largest total sum ever received. The ordinary receipts last year were £7300, and the ordinary expenditure was £7658. The total receipts had been £11,864, and the total expenditure £8626, which had enabled the committee to invest the sum of £3324. At the close of the meeting, subscriptions amounting to £1180 were announced.

The annual meeting of the friends of the East London Hospital for Children was held, last Saturday, at the Mansion House—the Recorder of London in the chair. During the last year 450 in-patients had been received into the hospital and 3972 out-patients had been treated. The total expenditure had been £2026. The present accommodation for in-patients was very limited, and a larger and more convenient edifice was absolutely needed. The chairman, Lord Shaftesbury, Lord G. Hamilton, M.P.; Mr. Reed, M.P.; and other gentlemen urged the claims of the charity to public support.

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